

The Hunter.

A DISCOURSE of HORSEMANSHIP:

Directing

The right way to breed, keep, and train
a HORSE, for ordinary *Hunting*
and *Plates*.



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The HUNTER.

CHAP. I.



Of Hunting-Horses in general, their Excellency, and the necessity and benefit of the Art of Keeping.

I Shall omit to speak in praise of *Hunting* in general, since I would avoid (as much as might be) Repetitions, and that it is already done at the Beginning of the foregoing Book, with more *Address* than I am *Master* of. But since that *Author* hath spoken nothing of the *Hunting-Horse*, which is a principal *Instrument* of that Excellent *Recreation*, I desire leave to speak a word in his Behalf. In Behalf, I say, of this noble Creature, to whom all that are Followers of *Hunting* are oblig'd: since it is by his *Strength* and *Vigour* that we gratifie at ease our Eyes and Ears, with all the Pleasures that *Hunting* affords; and without whose Assistance, a great part of us could enjoy it a little more than in Imagination.

But tis not to us only, that are *Huntsmen*, but to all *Mankind*, that the *Hunter* is (or may be) serviceable. Has our *Prince*, or *Country* occasion for our Service in the Field: on what *Horse* can we venture our Lives more securely, than on the *Hunter*? His Readiness to obey the Hand and Heel, equals him to the

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Mannag'd Horse. His being us'd to gallop on all sorts of Grounds, as well steep places as deep Earths, has so steel'd his Courage, that he declines no Military service you can put him on. Are there Ambuscado's to be laid, Discoveries to be made, speedy and long Marches to be perform'd; or any other Service, wherein Strength of Body, Purity of Wind, or Swift-ness, are requir'd? The General may in any of these cases rely on the Hunter, with as much Confidence, as on the Horse that is dress'd in the Mannage.

In times of Peace he is equally Useful, not only for Pleasure, but also for Necessity, and Profit. How diverting to the Eyes, is a Beautiful Horse after a Pack of Dogs? and with how much ease to our Bodies, and delight to our Minds, are we carried up to them; with so much Vigour and Pride to be discern'd in his Countenance, as if he emulated the Hounds in their Speed, and was desirous to excell them, in his Obedience to their common Lord.

How Necessary is the Hunter beyond all other Horses, if his Masters urgent Affairs (where either Life or Fortune are in hazard,) exact the performance of a long Journey in a short Time. If his Master, in hopes of Advantage, has match'd him against any other Horse; how ready and willing is he, to perform the Utmost that Nature is capable of, or his Master can reasonably expect from Him; and having Art joyn'd to his natural Abilities, will not only excell all other Horses, but accomplish things beyond his Masters Hopes, or Expectations; for without its Assistance in Dieting and Exercise, no Horse can follow the Hounds, or indeed undergo any other extreme Labour, without hazarding the melting his Grease, the breaking of his Wind, or foundring him either in Feet, or Body: all which are consequences of immoderate Labour, and Ignorance in this Art.

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That I may therefore give you some Light into its Mysteries, I shall first direct you how to breed such *Horses* that may be for *Training*; or else instruct you, how otherwise to procure them. Secondly, how to know by *Shapes*, *Marks*, and other Tokens, what *Horse* may be most convenient for your purpose. Thirdly, how to *diet* him so, that he may perform all things within his Power, without Danger. Lastly, what manner of *Exercise* is most conducive to this Design: and on these Heads I intend to enlarge in my following *Discourse*.

But before I enter upon my *Subject* propos'd, I think it necessary to answer *Four Objections*, that may be made against this *Art of Dieting and Training Horses*, that I may remove all prejudice from the minds of those, who think they may have Reason to oppose it; and that I may vindicate (with Truth) this *Art*, and clear it from all Aspersions.

The first *Objection* I shall mention, is made by *de Grey* in his Epistle to the Reader, (*Edit. 4th.*) where under the *Umbrage* of his Love to *Horses*, and in pity of the Hardships they undergo in *Hunting*, he extremely inveighs against it, as the *Sourse* of all their Miseries. But that I may not be tax'd of *Prevarication* by my Reader, and for his satisfaction I shall set down his Words, which are these.

If the Nobility and Gentry of this our Isle of Great Britain, did truly know how honourable, and how commendable *Horsemanship* were, and how much they are esteem'd and admir'd, who are the true Professors thereof, they would labour more than they now do, to breed and to have good *Horses*; but it much troubleth me to see, how little Esteem Gentlemen have thereof. Some *Horses* they have, though not for *Mannage*, yet for *Hunting*: but what manner of *Hunting*? Fox-hunting forsooth, or *Harrriers*, which be as fleet as petty *Grey-hounds*, wherewith

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they do so much over-strain the strength of these poor Horses, (forcing them over deep Fallows, rough Clays, and wet and rough Sands,) that albeit those Horses be strong and able, yet are they so toil'd out therewith, as that when they come home at night they would pity the Heart of him that loveth an Horse to see them so bemired, blooded, spurred, lamentably spent, and tyred out; whereas if such Horses had been ridden to the Great-Saddle and Cannon, they would infinitely have delighted all men that should have beheld them.

To this I answer, that for my own part I am not very fond of Fox hunting; but I can see no Reason why Persons of Honour should not gratifie their Fancies with this Recreation, since from the beginning Horses were made for the service of Man; and doubtless for their Recreation, as well as more necessary Uses. And I am very confident, that if Horses be train'd, dieted, and ridden according to Art, there will be left no ground for this Objection. For by good Feeding Faintness would be prevented; and by Airing, and due Exercise, the Horses Wind would be so improv'd, that no moderate Labour would hurt him; nay, though a Horse by immoderate Riding, were reduc'd to such Tragical Exigencies, as De Grey mentions, yet by the Assistance of Art Nature may be in Twenty four hours space so reliev'd, that all those dangerous Symptoms shall be remov'd, and all the Natural Faculties act as formerly.

Now as to the last part of his Argument, I appeal to all the greatest Masters of Academies here, or in Foreign Parts; whether in the Mannage, the Spurs are not as much us'd, (not to say more,) as in Hunting; and the Duke of Newcastle in his *Methode Nouvelle* in 8°. p. 85. says, *il n'y a point d'Exercice si violent pour les Chevaux que celui de Mange*; that is, There is no Exercise so violent for Horses as the Mannage;

nage; so that you see *Hunting* is not the only violent Exercise: and *Salomon de la Broue* goes further in his *Cavalariſe Françoise*, telling us, that *Mammag'd Horses* should sometimes be us'd to the Chase, since *hunting* assists his wind, and brings him to a civil Acquaintance with other Horses: inferring from hence, that *hunting* procures to an Horse two Benefits, viz. Speed and Strength, and reforms in him two Vices, Salvageness and Restiveness.

Secondly, there are others, that though they may approve of keeping their Horses clean, yet are not reconcil'd to *hunting*; but being either Admirers of *Coursing*, or else keeping Horses only for the benefit of their health, and the taking the Air; will not be perswaded, but that they can bring their Horses to the same Perfection without *hunting*, as with it.

To answer the first of these, I mean *Coursers*; I affirm, 'tis impossible to attain the end of this Art by that Means: for being oblig'd in search of their Game to toil their Horses all day, over deep Fallows, in a foot-pace only, they are likelier to bring their Horses to Weariness than Perfection.

And the same Answer may serve the Others likewise: for Riding a Horse up and down the Field after nothing, brings a Weariness and Dislike to an Horse in his Exercise, through his Ignorance of the Time, when his Labour shall cease; whether, or to what End he is so labour'd. Whereas on the contrary, an Horse naturally takes delight in following the Dogs, and seems pleas'd with their Musick, as is evident by his pricking up his Ears, gazing on them, and pressing to gallop towards them, when ever he hears them in full cry, (though at a distance.) Nay further, I have been Master of a Stonehorse, that so entirely lov'd the Hounds, that when at any time (through eagerness of Sport, and desire to save the Hare from being
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eaten) I have rid in amongst the Dogs, he would so carefully avoid treading on them, that he has more than once hazarded my Limbs (by making a *false step*) to save *theirs*. From hence I infer, that doubtless Horses extreamly *delight in hunting*, and consequently, that it is a fit *Exercise* for them.

Thirdly, Others Object, That what soever *Pleasure* there may be in *Hunting*, they had rather deny themselves that satisfaction than hazard the *Laming* their Horses, which, (as they are told) few, or no *Hunters* escape.

That *Hunters* are sometimes *Lame*, I do not deny: but cannot allow, that it proceeds alwaies from this *Exercise*. For 'tis the *Indiscretion of the Riders*, in *overstraining* their Horses at *Leaps*; and by that meanes, sometimes *clapping* them on the *back-sinews*, *catching* in their *shoes*, and such like, and not the *Sport*, that is the cause of *Lameness*. But on the contrary, I will undertake to shew any man *Twenty* other Horses lame (which never knew what belong'd to *Hunting*) for *One Hunter*. There are several other *Reasons* besides *Hunting* to be given for *Lameness*; as for Instance. *Much Travel* though but moderate, if care be wanting) will produce *Wind-galls*, and *Splints*, which are the fore-runners of *Lameness*. Want of *Exercise* will *straiten* the *Hoofs*, and *dry up* the *sinews*; and too much negligence in *Travail* occasions *Surbating*, *Foundring*, and *Gravailing*. Horses on the Road oftentimes *stumble*, and now and then *fall*, and so become *Lame*. Nay, a *Slip*, or an *Over-reach* are as incident to the *Pad*, as to the *Hunter*. And to conclude, the *Horse* that is *Dress'd*, is more liable to a *Strain* in the *Back*, and *Fillets*, than the *Hunter*; by meanes of his *short-turns*: so that you may perceive that *Lameness* is *Epidemical*, and therefore no more to be objected against *Hunting-Horses*, than the rest of that *Species*.

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Fourthly, Some again are Enemies to this *Art* of *Dyeting Horses in particular* : affirming, that such *exact Diet* makes them tender, sickly, and takes them off their Stomach : and that the *Charges* are not only great, but likewise unnecessary.

To the *First part* of this *Obiection*, I answer, that an Horse is so far from being made tender, or losing his Appetite, by such extream and several Feedings, if he have proportionate Exercise, that it rather inures him to hardship. For much Labour (if not too violent) either in *Man* or *Beast*, instead of weakning the Stomack, and causing *Sickness*, does rather advance the Appetite and preserve his *Health* ; and it may be observed, that it doth oftner heighten than decay the Stomack. In like manner moderate Airings purify his Wind, and both together render him Healthy, and fit for Service.

As to the several sorts of *Food*, we shall prove in the sequel, that every part of it is both nourishing, and natural to all Horses Constitutions ; so that consequently, tis not only allowable, but necessary : And to prove this, needs no more ; than to ride an ordinary Horse drawn clean, a days *Hunting*, or three *Hears*, and a *Course*, against the best of those Horses, which are kept by such *Persons* who think that half a Peck a Day, and fetching his water at the next Spring is *Horsemanship* sufficient ; and they will find by keeping and Exercise, the Ordinary Horse will become long winded, and *stick at Mark* : when the other that is *Foul-fed*, and fat, will soon give out, for want of Wind ; or otherwise if he be hardy will dy under the *Spur* ; whereas if the untrained Horse had been rightly ordered he would have worsted Twenty such Horses.

Now to the *Charges of Keeping*, Fifty Shillings a Year disburs'd for Bread, besides Hay, Straw, Corn and

and *Physick*, (which all *Horses of Value* must be allowed) is all that will be requisite, to keep an Horse in as good State for Ordinary Hunting, as any Horse whatsoever. Lastly by being Skilful in the *Art of Keeping*, this Advantage will insue; that no Distemper relating either to the *Head* or *Body* can conceal themselves from his keepers knowledge, whose Skill will inform him, how to put a stop to them, before they have made any considerable *Advances* to the Horses Prejudice. And he that grudges so small an Expence on so noble and useful a Creature as an Horse is, deserves never to come on the back of one.

CHAP. II.

Of Breeding, the Choice of a Stallion, and Mares, with some general Remarks on Marks and Colours.

Since Creation and Generation preceeded the *Art of Riding*, and that the first thing which is of Course to be treated of, is the Choice of an Horse fit for this exercise of Hunting, I shall speak something cursorily of the *Art of Breeding*, before I treat of the *Hunter* ready for service. To them therefore that have grounds convenient for *Breed*, I shall direct this part of my discourse: and lay them down some few Rules that may be serviceable to them, though I shall be as brief as possible, and refer them to *Markham*, *de Grey*, *Morgan*, *Almond*, and *Farring Complate*, (which is collected from the forementioned Authors

Markham

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Markham and *de Grey*) all which have treated of the Art of *Breeding* more at large.

First therefore I would advise you to buy either an *Arabian Horse* (if you can procure him,) a *Spaniard*, a *Turk*, or a *Barb*, for your *Stallion*, that is well *shap'd*, of a good *Colour* to beautify your *Race*; and well *mark'd*, to agree with most mens *Opinions*; though otherwise they are not so *significative* as *Mr. Blundevile*, and his *Italian Author Frederigo Griffone*, would have us believe.

To begin with the *Arabian*; Merchants, and other Gentlemen that have travell'd those parts, report, that the right *Arabians* are valu'd at an incredible, as well as an intolerable *Rate*; being priz'd at *Five hundred*, others say at *one, two, and three thousand Pounds* an Horse; that the *Arabs* are as careful of keeping the *Genealogies* of their Horses, as *Princes* in keeping their *Pedigrees*; that they keep them with *Medals*; and that each Son's Portion is usually *two Suits of Arms, two Cymeters, and one of these Horses*. The *Arabs* boast, that they will ride *four score miles* a day, without *drawing Bitt*: which has been perform'd by several of our *English Horses*. But much more was achiev'd by an *High-way-man's Horse*; who having taken a *Booby*, on the *same day* rode him from *London to York*, being *One hundred and Fifty Miles*. Notwithstanding their great value, and the difficulty in bringing them from *Scanderoon to England* by Sea; yet by the care, and at the charge of some *Breeders* in the *North*, the *Arabian Horse* is no stranger to those parts; where Persons who have the curiosity, may (as I presume) at this Day see some of the *Race*, if not a true *Arabian Stallion*.

The *Spanish Horse* (according to the *Duke of Newcastle*) is the *Noblest Horse* in the world, and the most *Beautiful* that can be; no Horse is so curiously *shap'd*
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all over from Head to Croup, and he is absolutely the best Stallion in the world, whether you design your Breed for the *Mannage*, the *War*, the *Pad*, *Hunting*, or for *Running* Horses. But as he is excellent, so he wants not for price, *Three* or *Four* hundred *Pistols* being a common Rate for a *Spanish* Horse. Several have been sold for *Seven* hundred, *Eight* hundred, and a *Thousand* *Pistols* a piece; and *One* particular Horse, called *el Bravo*, that was sent to the Arch-Duke *Leopold*, was held worth as much as a Mannour of a *Thousand* *Crowns* a year. The best *Spanish* Horses are bred in *Andalouzia*, and particularly at *Cordova*, where the *King* has many *Studds* of *Mares*, and so have several of the *Spanish* Nobility and Gentry. Now besides the great price at first, the *Charges* of the Journey from *Spain* to *England* will be very considerable: for first, he must travel from *Andalouzia* to *Bilbo*, or *St Sebastien*, the neereſt Ports to *England*, and is at least *Four* hundred *Miles*: and in that hot Country you cannot with safety travel your Horse above *twenty* *Miles* a day; then there is the Expence of your *Groom* and *Farrier*, besides the casualty of *Lameness*, *Sickness*, and *Death*: so that though he do prove an *Extraordinary* good Horse, by that time he arrives at your own home he will likewise be an *Extraordinary* dear one.

The *Turk* is little inferior to the *Spanish* Horse in Beauty, but somewhat odd-shap'd, his head being somewhat like that of a *Camel*: He hath excellent *Eyes*, a thin Neck excellently risen, and somewhat large of body: his Croup is like that of a *Mule*; his Legs not so underlimb'd as those of the *Barb*, but very sinewy, good *Pasterns*, and good *Hoofs*: They never amble, but trot very well: and are accounted at this present better Stallions for *Gallopers* than *Barbs*, as (when I come to speak of them) I shall shew.

Some

Some *Merchants* affirm, that there cannot be a more noble and divertive sight to a *Lover of Horses*, than to walk into the Pastures near *Constantinople*, about *Soyling-time*, where he may see many hundred gallant Horses *rethred*, and every Horse has his *Attendant* or *Keeper*, with his little *Tent* (plac'd near him) to lie in, that he may look to him, and take care to *shift* him to fresh *Grass*, as occasion requires.

The Price of a *Turk* is commonly *One hundred* or *One hundred and Fifty Pounds* a Horse, and when bought tis difficult to get a *Pass*; the *Grand Segnior* being so very strict, that He seldom (but upon extraordinary occasions) permits any of his Horses to be *exported* his Dominions. But if (when obtain'd) you travel by *Land*, without a *Turk* or two for your *Convooy*, you will be sure to have them seiz'd on by the way. Then, as in the former, so here, you will find the same difficulties of a *long Journey*, (for you must come through *Germany*, which is a long way,) and the same charges attending it, I mean your *Groom* and *Farrier*: who must be careful that they entrust no Persons whatsoever with the care of him, but themselves, especially in *shooing* of him: For tis the common practice beyond Sea, (as well as here) where they discover a *fine Horse*, to hire a *Farrier* to *prick* him, that they may buy him for a *Stallion*.

But some People chuse to buy Horses at *Smyrna* in *Anatolia*, and from thence, as likewise from *Constantinople*, transport them to *England* by Sea; which, if the Wind serve right, arrive in *England* in a *month*, though generally the *Merchants* make their *Voyages* little less than a *Quarter of a year*.

The *Barb* is little inferior to any of the former in *beauty*, only he is accounted by our *Modern Breeders* too *slender* and *Lady-like* to *breed* on: and therefore in the North, at this instant, they prefer the *Spanish Horse*

Horse and Turk before him. He is so lazy and negligent in his walk, that he will *stumble on Carpet-ground*. His Trot is like that of a Cow, his Gallop low, and with much ease to himself. But he is for the most part *snawy*, and *nervous*, excellently winded, and good for a Course, if he be not *over-weighted*.

The *Mountain-Barbs* are accounted the best, because they are the strongest and largest. They belong to the *Allarbes*, who value them as much themselves, as they are priz'd by any other Nations, and therefore they will not part with them to any Persons except to the *Prince of the Band* to which they belong; who can at any time, at his pleasure, command them for his own use. But for the other more ordinary sort, they are to be met with pretty common, in the hands of several of our *Nobility* and *Gentry*; or if you send into *Languedoc* and *Provence* in *France*, they may be there bought for *forty or fifty Pistols* a Horse. Or if you will send into *Barbary*, you may have one for *Thirty Pounds*, or thereabouts. But here too the *charges* and *journey* will be great; for though from *Tunis* to *Marselles* in *France* be no great Voyage, yet from *Marselles* to *Callais* by Land measures the length of all *France*, and from thence they are shipt for *England*.

The next thing of course to be treated of, is the choice of your *Mares*, and the fittest *Mare* to breed out of, according to the *Duke of Newcastle's* opinion, is one that has been bred of an *English Mare*, and a *Stallion* of either of these Races; but if such a *Mare* be not to be got, then make choice of a *right bred English Mare* by *Sire* and *Dam*, that is *well fore-handled*, *well underlaid*, and strong put together in general; and in particular, see that she have a *lean Head*, *wide Nostrils*, *open Chaul*, a *big Weasand*, and the *Windpipe* *straight* and *loose*, and chuse her about *five or six year* old,

old, and be sure that the Stallion be not too old.

Now for the *Food* of the Stallion, I would have you keep him as *high* as possible for *four* or *five* months before the time of *Covering*, with *old* *clean* *Oats*, and *split* *Beans*, well *bull'd*: to which you may add, if you please, *Bread*, (such as in this Book shall be hereafter directed) and now and then, for variety, you may give him an *handful* of *clean* *Wheat*, or *Oats* washt in strong *Ale*; but as for *Bay-salt*, and *Amiseeds*, which Mr. *Morgan*, in his *Perfection of Horsemanship*, advises should be scatter'd amongst his Provender, I hold them superfluous whilst the Horse is in health, but be sure let him have plenty of good *old* *sweet* *Hay*, well cleansed from *Dust*, and good *Wheat-straw* to lie on; and let him be watered twice every day at some fair running Spring, or else a clear standing Pond-water (where the other is not to be had) near some *Meadow* or level piece of Ground, where you may gallop him after he hath drunk. When you have brought him to the water, do not suffer him to drink his Fill at the first, but after he has taken his first draught, gallop and scope him up and down a little to warm it, and then bring him to the water again, and let him drink what he please, and after that gallop him as you did before, never leaving the Water till you find he will drink no more. By this means you will prevent raw Crudities, which the Coldness of the Water would produce to the detriment of the Stomach, if you had permitted him to drink his fill at first; whereas you allowing him his fill (though by degrees) at last, you keep his Body from drying too fast. And this I take to be much better for your Horses than (according to the fore-cited *Morgan*) to encourage his Water with *Whitewine*, to qualifie the cold quality thereof: for *Nature* it self is the best *Directress* for the expulsion of her *Enemies*,
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especially in Brutes, where usually she can command the *Appetite*: and therefore I esteem his own *natural heat*, for *warming his water*, to be better than that which proceeds from any other. Now as to *Morgan's* Direction of *Sweating* him every day early in the *Morning*, which he says will not only perfect digestion, and exhaust the moisture from his Seed, but also strengthen and cleanse his Blood and Body from all raw and imperfect humors; I am of opinion twill both dry up the *radical Moisture* too fast, and likewise instead of heightning his Pride and Lust, (which he alledges, weaken him too much. Other *Rules* might be given as to the ordering of them after *Water*, and the *Hours of Feeding*, with the *quantity* &c. but these will be fitter to be handled in another place, and therefore no more of them here.

Now when your *Stallion* is in Lust, and the *Time* for *Covering* is come, which is best to be in *May*, that the *Foles* may fall in *April* following, otherwise they will have little or no *Grass*, if they should be put together (according to *Markham's* opinion) in the middle of *March*, tho he holds that *one Fole falling in March* is worth *two falling in May*, "because (saith he) he possesseth, as it were, two Winters in a year, and is thereby so hardened, that nothing can almost after impair him. The time I say being come to put your *Stallion* and *Mares* together, pull off his *hinder Shoes*, and lead him to the place where the *Stud of Mares* are, which you intend for *covering*, which place ought to be *close*. well *fenc'd*, and in it a little *Hut* for a *Man* to lie in, and a larger *Shed* with a *Manger* to feed your *Stallion* with *Bread* and *Corn*, during his *Abode* with the *Mares*, and to shelter him in the *heat of the Day* and in *Rainy weather*, and this *Close* ought to be of sufficient *largeness* to keep your *Mares* well for two *months*.

Before

Before you pull off his *Bridle*, let him cover a Mare or two in hand, then turn him loose amongst them, and put all your Mares to him, as well those which are with Foals, as those which are not, for there is no danger in it; and by that means they will all be serv'd in their height of Lust, and according to the intention of Nature. When your Stallion has cover'd them once, he tries them all over again, and those which will admit him he serves; and when his business is finish'd, he beats the Pale, and attempts to be at Liberty; which when your Man finds, (who is Night and Day to observe them, and to take care that no other Mares are put to your Horse, and to give you an Account, which take the horse, and which not, &c.) let him be taken up, and let him be well kept as before; only you may at the first give him a good Mash or two, to help to restore Nature, for you will find him nothing but Skin and Bones, and his Mane and Tail will rot off. Be sure give him never above Ten or Twelve Mares in a Season, at most; otherwise you will scarce recover him against the next Years Covering-time.

When your Stallion is past this use, then buy another; but be sure never make use of a Horse of your own Breed, for by so doing the Best Kind would in time degenerate: but you cannot do better (the Duke of Newcastle says) than to let your own Mares be cover'd by their Sire, for (according to his own words and opinion) there is no Incest in Horses: and by this means they are nearer one degree to the Purity and Head of the Fountain, from which they are deriv'd, since a fine Horse got them, and the same fine Horse covers them again.

Now though the Duke of Newcastle affirms this to be the true way for covering Mares, alledging that Nature is wiser than Art in the Art of Generation, and that

that by this way, of a dozen Mares he dare affirm that two shall not fail: yet it may not correspond with the Interest of some private Gentlemen who turn Breeders for Profit as well as Pleasure; for a good Stallion bearing such an extraordinary rate, and they having but One, have reason to be cautious, to avoid as much as can be all hazardous Experiments; which (with submission to the Duke's Judgment) this in some cases may prove. For first, there have been Horses of great spirit, that have kill'd themselves through excess of Lust, being left to range at their liberty; and those that have been confin'd to an Enclosure, & a select number of Mares, have yet in one Weeks space so weaken'd Nature, that not above half the Mares have held. Secondly, some Mares are of so hot a constitution of Nature, and their Lust so violent, that if they are permitted to run long with the Horse, after they have conceived, will (if they be high in flesh and lusty) desire the Horse again, which generally hazards the Loss of the Embrio they go with.

To prevent therefore these Inconveniencies, I shall lay you down an other Method (as briefly as may be,) which is called covering in hand, as the former is generally term'd out of hand, and the way is this: viz. when you have brought both your Horse and Mare to as proper condition for Breed by Art and good feeding, then set some ordinary Ston'd-Nag by her for a day or two to wooe her, and by that means she will be so prone to Lust, that she will readily receive your Stallion; which you should present to her either early in a Morning, or late in an Evening, for a day or two together, and let him cover her in hand once, or twice if you please, at each time, observing always to give the Horse the advantage of Ground, and that you have some one ready with a Packet of cold water to throw on the Mare's Shape,

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immediately on the *dismounting* of the Horse, which will make her *retain* the *Seed* received the better, especially if you get on her *back*, and *tro* her about a quarter of an Hours space, but in any case have a care of *heating*, or *straining* her: and it will not be amiss, if after every such act you let them *fast two Hours*, and then give each of them a warm *Mash*; and tis odds but this way your Mares may be as well *serv'd* as the other, and yet your *Stallion* will last you much longer.

I shall say no more as to the *keeping* the Mares during the time of their being with *Foals*, nor of their *foaling*; only this, that if you take care to *house* them all the *Winter*, and to keep them well, their *Colts* will prove the better. When they are *foaled*, let them *run* with their *Dams* till *Martin-mass*, then *wean* them, and keep them in a convenient *House*, with a low *Rack* and *Manger* on purpose; *litter* them well, and *feed* them with good *Hay*, and *Oats* and *Wheat-bran* mix'd, which will make them *drink*, and *belly* well. The first year you may put them all together, but afterwards they must be separated, the *Steele-Colts* from the *Fillies*; and if you have choice of *Houses*, you may put *Tearings* together, *Two years old* together, and so *Three years old* together, for their better satisfaction and agreement; as little *Children* best agree together.

In a warm fair Day you may grant them liberty to *run* and *scope* in some enclosed Court or Back-side, but be sure to take care to *put them up* again carefully, that they be not *hurt*. When *Summer* is come, and there is plenty of *Grass*, put them out in some dry *Ground*, that hath convenient *watring*, and so let them *run* till *Martinmass* again: then *house* them as before, and order them in all points as *older* Horses, till they are full *Five years old*; then take them up for good and all,

and let your Groom back them if he have skill, or else some skilful Rider. You may if you please just break your Fillies at Two years and half old, and let them be cover'd at Three; and by that means they will be so tame and gentle, as not to injure themselves or their Foals. But in case of sickness, or any accidental calamity, as Lameness, &c. you must then commit them to the Farrier's Care.

The reason why I propose the *Housing* of them every Winter, with dry Feeding and Lodging, is, that they may be the liker their Sire in Beauty and Shape. For the primary Cause of the fineness of Shape and Beauty in Horses is Heat, and dry Feeding. And this is prov'd from the several Races we have already mentioned, viz. the Spanish Horse, Barb, and Turkish Horse, all which Countreys are under an Hot Climate, and by consequence afford little Grass: Therefore in our more moderate and cold Countries we are to assist Nature by Art, and to supply the want of Heat by warm Housing, and dry Feeding. This is easily made evident by Example. For take two Colts begot by the same Sire, on Mares of equal Beauty, and house the one every Winter, and feed him as directed, and expose the Other, till they are Four years old, and fit to be back'd; and you shall find the former like his Sire in all respects, and the other fitter for the Cart than Hunting, as being a dull, heavy, flabby, scarce animated Clod; and all this proceeds from the Humidity of the Air and Earth. From hence you may infer, that tis not only Generation, but, as I may term it, Education, that makes a compleat Horse; and such yours will be, if you order them according to the former Directions; for you may with ease break the Colt that is by such good management made gentle, and half back'd to your hand.

But I have dwelt longer on this Subject than I intended, my business being chiefly to inform the Groom

(not the *Master*) what belong'd to his Office; and therefore I will wander no further from my purpose, but leave it to the *Rider* to follow his own *Method* in rearing *Colts* fit for his *Masters* Service: whilst I give some few Directions to those *Gentlemen* who will not bestow either trouble or charges on *Breeding*, or have the *Will* but not the *Convenience* to do it, how to elect an *Horse* fit for this *Exercise*.

The way for a *Gentleman* to furnish himself with an *Horse*, that may be worth training for *Hunting*, is either to enquire out some noted *Breeder* (of which there are many in the *North*;) or else to go to some famous *Fair*, as *Malton* and *Rippon Fairs* in *Yorkshire*, the former held on the 23. day of *September* yearly, and the latter on *May day*: Or to *Richmonds* in the same *Shire*, (which, as I am inform'd, does now of late years exceed both the fore-mention'd, being situate in the middle of the most celebrated part of the breeding Country;) its *Fairs* are held in *Easter week*, and at *Rood syde*. *Northampton* has several *Fairs* in the year likewise, as on the 23. day of *April*, the 8th. of *September*, 17th. of *November*, with several others.

There are several other *Fairs*, as *Lenton-Fair* in *Nottinghamshire*, *Pankridge-Fair* in *Staffordshire*, &c. which for brevities sake I omit. At any of these places he may make choice of a *Horse*, which as near as can be ought to have these following *Shapes*: viz.

His *Head* ought to be lean, large, and long; his *Chaul* thin, and open; his *Ears* small, and pricked; or if they be somewhat long, provided they stand upright like those of a *Fox*, it is usually a sign of *Mettle* and *Toughness*. His *Forehead* long and broad, not flat, and as we term it *Mare-fac'd*, but rising in the midst like that of a *Hare*, the *Feather* being plac'd above the *Top* of his *Eye*, the contrary being thought by some to betoken *blindness*. His *Eyes* full, large,

and bright; his *Nostrils* wide, and red within, for an open *Nostril* betokens a good Wind; his *Mouth* large, deep in the *sockets*, and hairy; his *Throttle*, *Wrasband*, or *Windpipe*, big, loose, and streight when he is rein'd in by the *Bridle*; for if, when he bridles, it bends in like a *Bow*, (which is called *Cock-thropted*) it very much hinders the free passage of his Wind. His *Head* must be so set on to his *Neck*, that there must be a space felt between his *Neck* and his *Chaul*; for to be *Ball-neck'd* is uncomely to sight, and prejudicial to the *Horses* wind, as aforesaid. His *Crest* should be firm, thin, and well risen; his *Neck* long, and straight, yet not loose, and pliant, which the *Northern-men* term *Wirby-cragg'd*; his *Breast* strong, and broad; his *Chest* deep, his *Chine* short, his *Body* large, and close shut up to the *Hacklebone*; his *Ribbs* round like a *Barrel*, his *Belly* being hid within them. His *Filles* large, his *Buttock* rather oval than broad being well set down to the *Gaskins*. His *Cambrials* upright, and not bending, which is called by some *sickle-bough'd*, though some hold it a sign of Toughness and Speed. His *Legs* clean, flat, and streight. His *Joints* short, well knit, and upright, especially betwixt the *Past-borns* and the *Hoof*, having but little Hair on his *Fetlocks*. His *Hoofs* black, strong, and hollow, and rather long and narrow, than big and flat. And lastly, his *Main* and *Tail* should be long, and thin rather than thick, which is counted by some a mark of Dulness.

As to his *Colour* and *Marks*, I rather incline to believe them grateful to the *Eye*, than any infallible *Indices* of Goodness; for as the Goodness or Badness of a Man does not consist in his *Complexion*, but in his inward *Virtues*, so neither do *Colour* or *Marks* certainly demonstrate the Goodness or Badness of an Horse, because his *Qualifications* proceed from his inward *Disposition*. But yet I wholly dissent from the opinion

nion of Mr. *Morgan*, p. 31; who holds, That *Colour* and *Marks* are no more assurance of a good *Horse*; than the having a *Feather* in a *Mans Hat* does prove him a good *Man* or a bad; inferring that *inherent Colours* are of no greater *Eminency* or *Value*, than those *external* ones are which may be taken or laid aside [at a man's own will and pleasure.

Now I say, that altho *Marks* and *Colour* do not absolutely give testimony unto us of a *Horses* goodness, yet *they* as well as his *shape* do intimate to us in some part his *Disposition* and *Qualities*. For *Nature*, not being defective, frames every part of the same matter whereof the whole is formed, and therefore the *Foetus* being formed of the copulative Seed of its *Sire* and *Dam*, does from them derive as well the *accidental* as the more *essential* Qualities of its temperament and composition. And for this Reason *Hair* it self may often times receive the variation of its *Colour* from the different temperature of the Subject out of which it is produced. And to confirm this, I dare pass my word, that wherever you shall meet with an *Horse* that hath no *White* about him, especially in his *Fore-head*, though he be otherwise of the best reputed Colours, as *Bay*, *Black*, *Sorrel* &c. That *Horse* I dare affirm to be of a *dogged* and *sullen disposition*; especially if he have a small *pink Eye*, and a *narrow Face*, with a *Nose* bending like a *Hawks Bill*.

But yet I am not positive, that *Horses* even of the most celebrated Colours, and *Marks* answerable, do always prove the best; because I have seen those *Horses* worsted by Others, whose *Marks* and *Colour* have been esteemed the worst; as *bright Sorrel*, and *Mouse-black* with *bald Faces*, and all the *Leggs* *white* above the knee. But I rather attribute the Cause thereof to the *Ignorance* of the *Rider*, that had the *training*

The Hunting-horse.

of those best marked Horses, than to any defect in *Nature*; for *Nature* is no Counterfeit, as *Art* often is, to make a thing shew to the Eye, contrary to what it is in reality. And therefore as I would not have men put too great Confidence in *Marks* and *Colours*; so I would not have them esteemed of so lightly, as the former comparison of Mr. *Morgans* would make them; for it is a constant and inseparable quality for Horses to produce *Hair*, which is given them by *Nature* as a Tegument and Defence against the Cold: and if it be shaved off, gall'd, or any waies else removed or taken away, yet it will grow again; but a *Feather* may be put to, or taken from a Mans Hat at his pleasure.

Therefore since *Colour* seemeth to set forth the Beauty of an Horse, you may for Ornament sake and to please your Eye, make choice of an Horse that is either a *Brown-Bay*, *Dapple-Bay*, *Black*, *Sad-Chestnut* with *Flaxen* Main and Tail, so that they have either a *White Star*, *Blaze*, or *Snip*, with a *White Foot*; *Dapple-Grey*, or *White Lyard* with *Black Muzzle*, *Eye*, and *Ear*. Any of these are reputed by most men to give a *Grace* to *shape*; tho in themselves they are no perfect signs of Goodness.

But for his *internal* Endowments, they are more material, and therefore take care that he by *Nature* be of a *Gentle* Disposition, to his Keeper tractable and docile free from those ill Qualities of Biting, Striking, Restiffness, Lying down in the Water, Starting, Running away with his Rider, Plunging, Leaping, &c. Not but that most, if not all these ill habits may be rectified by *Art*; For Experience has shewn us, that Horses which have not been of such a perfect *Natural* Composition,

sition, as might be desired, have yet been tempered by *Art*; and have not only been reclaimed from their vicious Habits, but have been likewise brought to great performance in *Heats*, as well as *Hunting*, as I could Instance in several if it were necessary.

And therefore since *Art* was invented to perfect *Nature*; if (notwithstanding your care) you have met with a *Horse* subject to any of these ill Qualities aforesaid, you must search into the causes of it, which *Art* will help you to discover and remove: and then *the Cause being taken away, the Effect will cease*. So that probably, contrary to most peoples Opinions a *Vicious Horse*, by good management and Government may be brought to excell an *Horse* that has a better Reputation and Fame in the judgment of the generality of Horsemen.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Of the Age a Hunter should be of before he be put to Hunting; of the Stable, and Groom, and of the Horse's first taking up from Grass, in order to his further Dieting.

HAVING gotten a Horse answerable either to the former Descriptions, or your own Satisfaction at least, I am to suppose that by a skillful Rider he is already grounded in the *Fundamentals* of this Art, by being taught such Obedience, as that he will readily answer to the Horseman's *Helps* and *Corrections* both of the *Bridle*, the *Hand*, the *Voice*, the *calf* of the *Leg*, and the *Spur*; that he can tell how to take his way forward, and hath gained a true temper of Mouth, and a right placing of his Head; and that he hath learn'd to *stop* and *turn* readily; for without these things are perfectly taught, and as it were laid for a Foundation, he can never proceed effectually.

I had thoughts of enlarging upon this particular Subject, but I find my *Discourse* is like to swell beyond its bounds, so that I am forced to omit it, and therefore I shall refer you to the Directions and Prudence of your Rider, and only tell you that tis convenient, your Horse should be *Five years* old, and well way'd before you begin to *Hunt* him. For though it be a general Custom amongst noted Horsemen to train their

their Horses up to Hunting at *Four years* old, and some sooner, yet at that Age his Joynts not being full knit, nor he come to his best strength and courage, he is disabled from performing any matter of speed and roughness: and indeed being put to sore Labour and Toil so young, he runs a very great hazard of *Strains*, and the putting out of *Splints*, *Spavins*, *Curbs* and *Winds*, &c. besides the daunting of his Spirit, and abating his natural Courage, insomuch that he will become melancholly, stiff, and rheumatick, and have all the distempers of *old Age*, when it might be expected he should be in his *Prime*.

Your Horse then being full *Five*, you may if you please put him to grass from the middle of *May* till *Baribolmen-tide*, or at least from the middle of *Summer* till that time; for then the *Season* being so violently hot, it will not be convenient to work him: where whilst he is sporting himself at liberty in his *Pasture*, we will if you please take care to provide a good *Stable* for his Reception at his taking up, and a good *Groom* to look after him; both which are more essentially necessary to the *Hunter* than to other Horses, which require not that exact care in keeping.

First then as to the *Stable*, I could wish every Gentleman would be careful to scituate it in a good Air, and upon hard dry and firm ground, that in the Winter the Horse may go and come clean in and out: and if possible let it be seated on an Ascent, that the Urine, Foul Water, or any Wet, may be convey'd away by *Trenches*, or *Sinks* cut out for that purpose. Be sure to suffer no Hen-houses, Hog-styes, or Houses of Easment, or any other filthy Smells to be near it; for Hen-dung, or Feathers swallow'd, oftentimes prove mortal, and the ill Air of a Jakes as often is the cause of *Blindness*: likewise the very smell of Swine will frequently breed the *Farcy*, and no Animal whatsoever

soever more delights in cleanliness, or is more offended at *unwholesome savours* than the Horse.

Let your Stable be built of *Brick*, rather than *Stone*, since the latter is subject to sweating in wet weather: which Dampness and Moisture is the Original of *Rheums*, and *Catarhs*. Let your Wall be of a good convenient thickness, as about Eighteen or Twenty Inches thick, both for safety and warmth in *Winter*, and to keep the Sun from annoying him in *Summer*, which would hinder Concoction. You may (if you please) make *Windows* both on the East and North sides, that you may have the benefit of the Air during *Summer*, from the *North*, and of the Morning Sun during *Winter* from the *East*. And I would advise you to *Glaze* your *Windows*, and make them with *Sashes*, to let in Air at pleasure, and to keep out Poultry, for the reasons afore recited; and likewise to make close *Wooden shutters*, that during the middle time of the Day the Stable may be dark, which will cause him to take his *Rest* as well in the Day as the Night. Let your *Floor*, (I mean that part on which he is alwaies to stand, or lye down on, be made of *Oaken Planks*, and not *pitch'd*, for tis easier and warmer for the Horse to ly on *Boards* than *Stones*. be sure to lay them level; for if they are laid higher before than behind (as they generally are in *Inns* and *Horse-courfers Stables*, that their Horses may appear to more advantage in Stature,) his *hinder-leggs* will swell, and he can never lye at ease, because his *Hinder parts* will be still *slipping down*. Lay your *Planks cross-way*, & not at *length*; and underneath them sink a good *Trench*, which receiving the *Urine* thro holes bor'd on purpose in the *Planks*, may convey it into some *common receptacle*. Let the *ground* behind him be raised even with the *Planks*, that he may continually stand

stand on a *Level*. Let the *Floor* behind him be pitcht with *small Pebble*: and be sure let that part of your *Stable* where the *Rack* stands be well *Wainscoted*. I would have two *Rings* placed at each side of his *Stall*, for his *Halter* to run through; which must have a light wooden *Logger* at the bottom of it, to poise it *perpendicularly*; but not so heavy as to tire the *Horse*; or to hinder him from eating. Instead of a *fix'd Manger*, I would have you have a *Locker*, or *Drawer*, made in the *Wainscote* partition, for him to eat his *Corn* out of, which you may take in and out to cleanse at pleasure. And whereas some may object the *narrowness* of the *Room*, you may remedy that at your pleasure, by allowing it to be the *Larger*: tho considering the small *Quantity* of *Provender*, you are to put in at a time, (as you see hereafter) you need not make it *very large*. I would not advise you to make any *Rack*, but instead thereof (according to the *Italian* fashion) to give your *Horse* his *Hay on the ground*, upon the *Litter*; or else you may (if you please) nail some *Boards* in the form of a *Trough*, in which you may put his *Hay*, and the *Boards* will prevent him from trampling and spoiling it.

Some possibly may object, that this way of Feeding him, may *spoil* his *Crest*, and that the *blowing* upon his *Hay* will soon make it nauséous to his *Palate*. For the *Spoiling* his *Crest*, it rather *strengthens* it, and makes it *firm*, whereas, on the contrary, to lift up his *Head high* to the *Rack* will make him *wisby-cragged*: but the way forementioned, he will feed as he lyes, which will be for his *ease* and satisfaction. As to the *quantity* of his *Hay*, you are to give it him in such *small Proportions*, (tho the oftener) that it may be eaten before his *Preath* can in the least have tainted it. But the chief Reason why I advise

advise you to this way is this, because the receiving his Hay down upon the Ground, will help to *clearse* his Head from any *Rheum* or *Dose*, which he may have gotten by negligence and over-exercise, and induce him by *snuzzing* to throw out all manner of *watry humors* that may annoy his Head. If your *Stable* will allow, you may build several Partitions of Boards, and at the Head towards the Manger let them be advanced to that height that one Horse may not *molest* or *smell* to another; and so divide the Whole into as many equal *Strands* or *Stauls* as it will admit of, allowing to each, Room enough to *turn about* in, and *lie down* at pleasure. You may make one of your *Stauls* *close*, which may serve for your Groom to lie in, in case of a *March*, *Sickness*, &c. and where he may *burn Candle* without the Horse's discerning of it. Behind the Horses I would have a *Range* of *Presses* made with *Peggs* in them to hang up *Saddles*, *Bridles*, *Hous-ing-cloaths*, &c. as likewise *Shelves* to place your *Gurry-combs*, *Brushes*, *Dusting-cloaths*, *Oynments*, *Waters*, or any other *Necessaries* upon.

Now that you may not *cumber* your *Stable* with *Oat-Binns*, I think it necessary to tell you, that the best way is to make use of the Invention of Mr. *Farmer* of *Tusmore* in *Oxford-shire*. Which is done (according as it is described by the Ingenuous Dr. *Plot*, in his *Natural History* of *Oxford-shire*) “ by letting the
 “ *Oats* down from a *Loft* above, out of a *Vessel* like
 “ the *Hopper* of a *Mill*, whence they fall into a square
 “ *Pipe* let into the wall, of about four Inches *Diagonal*,
 “ which comes down into a *Cupboard* also set into the
 “ wall, but with its end so near the *bottom* that there
 “ shall never be above a *Gallon*, or other desirable
 “ Quantity in the *Cupboard* at a time, which being
 “ taken away and given to the *Horses*, another *Gallon*
 “ presently succeeds; so that in the lower part of the
 Stable,

Stable, where the Horses stand, there is not one Inch of room taken up for the whole provision of *Oats*; which Contrivance hath also this further Convenience, that by this *Motion* the *Oats* are kept constantly sweet, (the taking away one Gallon moving the whole *Mass* above,) which laid up any otherwise in great quantities, grow frequently musty.

Now I would have you have two made, the one for the *Oats*, the other for your *split Beans*, and both let into your Range of *Presses*; the Partitions may easily be made over head, to separate your *Oats* from your *Beans*. Or if you like not this way, you may convert it into an *Hay-loft*, or *Chambers* for your *Grooms*, which you fancy; but whatever you make choice of, let the *Floor* overhead be *scil'd*, that no *Dust* from above fall upon your *Horses*. But if you have the convenience of a *Rick-yard*, so that you keep your *Hay* abroad, it is the opinion of some knowing *Horsemen*, that to *tuck* it out of the *Rick* by little and little, as you have occasion to use it, makes it spend much better than it would otherwise do out of the *Hay-Tallet*.

As to the rest of its Perquisites, a *Dung-yard*, a *Pump*, or a *Conduit*, are necessary; and if you can have that convenience, some *Pond* or *running River* near hand. But be sure, never let the Front of your *Stable* be without *Litter*, that by frequent practice your *Horse* may learn to empty his *Bladder* when he is come from *Airing*, which will be both *healthful* for your *Horse*, and *profitable* for your *Land*.

Having thus laid down a *Modell* for a *Stable*, my next business is to tell the *Groom* his Duty; I mean not those which generally appertain to all Servants, such as are *Obedience*, *Fidelity*, *Patience*, *Diligence* &c. but those more essentially belonging to this Office. First then he must love his *Horse* in the next degree
to

to his *Master*, and to endeavour by fair Usage to acquire a *reciprocal* Love from him again, and an exact *Obedience*, which if he know how to pay it to his *Master*, he will the better be able to reach it his *Horse*; and both the one and the other are to be obtain'd by fair means, rather than by *Passion* and *Outrage*. For those who are so *irrational themselves*, as not to be able to command their own *Passions*, are not fit to undertake the reclaiming of an *Horse*, (who by nature is an *irrational* Creature) from his.

He must then put in practice that *Patience*, which I would have him *Master* of, at all times, and by that and fair means he shall attain his End: For nothing is more *tractable* than an *Horse*, if you make use of *Kindness* to win him. Next, *Neatness* is requisite in a *Groom*, to keep his *Stable* clean swept and in order; his *Saddles*, *Housing-cloaths*, *Stirrups*, *Leathers*, and *Girths*, cleane, and above all his *Horse* clean dress'd and rubb'd. *Diligence* in the last place is requisite both in a daily practice of his *Duty*, and in observing any the *smallest* Alteration whether *casual* or *accidental*, either in his *Countenance*, as *Symptoms* of *Sickness*, or in his *Limbs* and *Gait*, as *Lameness*, or in his *Appetite*, as *forsaking* his *Meat*, and immediately upon any such *Discovery* to seek out for *Remedy*. This is the *substance* of the *Groom's* *Duty* in *general*, and which I shall treat of more at large as *Occasion* shall offer it self.

In the mean time since *Bartholomew-tide* is now come, and the pride and strength of the *Grass* nipp'd by the severe *Frosts*, and cold *Dews* which accompany this *Season*, so that the *Nourishment* thereof turneth into *raw Crudities*, and the *Coldness* of the *Night* (which is an *Enemy* to the *Horse*) abates as much *Flesh* and *Lust* as he getteth in the *Day*, we will now take him up from *Grass* whilst his *Coat* lies smooth and sleek.

Having

Having brought him home, let your Groom so that Night *set him up* in some secure and spacious House, where he may evacuate his Body, and so be brought to warmer keeping by *Degrees*; the next day *stable* him. But, tho it be held as a general Rule amongst the generality of Grooms, not to *cloath or dress* their Horses, till Two or Three days after their *stabling*, I can find no Reason but Custom to perswade one to it; But it being *little conducive* either to the advantage or *prejudice* of the Horse, I shall leave it to their own Fancies: But as to the giving of *Wheat-straw*, to take up his *Belly*, (a custom us'd by Grooms generally at the Horse's first *Houling*;) I am utterly averse from it. For the Nature of a Horse being *hot and dry*, if he should feed on *Straw*, which is so likewise, it would *straighten* his Guts, and cause an *Inflammation* of the *Liver*, and by that means distemper the *Blood*; and besides it would make his Body so *costive*, that it would cause a *Retemion* of Nature, and make him *dung* with great pain and difficulty; whereas *full Feeding* would expell the Excrements, according to the *true Intention* and Inclination of Nature. Therefore let moderate *Airing*, warm *Cloathing*, good *old Hay*, and *old Corn*, supply the place of *Wheat-straw*.

To begin then methodically, that your Groom may not be to seek in any part of his Duty, I shall acquaint him, that his first business is, after he hath brought his Horse into the Stable, in the morning to *water* him, and then to rub over his Body with a *hard Wisp* a little moisten'd, and then with a *woollen cloth*; then to cleanse his *Sheath* with his *wet hand* from all the *Dust* it had contracted during his *Running*, and to wash his *Yard* either with *White-wine*, or *Water*. Then he may *trim* him according to the manner that other Horses are trimm'd, except the *inside* of his Ears,

Ears, which (though some still continue that fashion) ought not to be meddled with, for fear of making him *catch cold*.

When this is done, let him have him to the *Farrier*, and there get a Sett of *Shoos* answerable to the shape of his *Foot*, and not to *pare* his *Foot* that it may fit his *Shoo*, as too many *Farriers* do, not only in *Brabant* and *Flanders*, but here likewise. Be sure let his *Feet* be well open'd betwixt the *Quarters* and the *Thrush*, to prevent *Hoof-binding*; and let them be open'd *straight*, and not *side-ways*, for by that means in two or three *Shooings*, his *Heels* (which are the strength of his *Feet*) will be cut quite away. Pare his *Foot* as *hollow* as you can, and then the *Shoo* will not *press* upon it. The *Shoo* must come *near* to the *Heel*, yet not be let so *close* as to *bruise* it; nor yet so *open* as to *catch* in his *Shoos*, if at any time he happen to *over-reach*, and so hazard the pulling them off, the breaking of his *Hoof*, or the bruising of his *Heel*. The *Webbs* of the *Shoos* must be neither too *broad*, nor too *narrow*, but of a *middle size*, about the breadth of an inch, with *slop'd Spunges*, and even with his *Foot*; for though it would be for the advantage of the *Travelling Horse's Heel*, to have the *Shoo* sit a little *wider* than the *Hoof*, on both sides, that the *Shoo* might bear his *Weight*, and not his *Foot* touch the ground; yet the *Hunter* being often forc'd to gallop on rotten *spungy Earth*, to have them larger would hazard *Laming*, and pulling off his *Shoos*, as hath been shown before.

There is an Old Proverb, *Before behind, and Behind before*; that is, in the *Fore-feet* the *Veins* lie *behind*, and in the *Hinder-feet* they lie *before*. Therefore let the *Farrier* take care that he prick him

him not, but leave a space at the *Heel* of the Fore-foot, and a space between the *Nails* at the *Toe*. When your Shoo is set on according to this Direction, you will find a great deal of his Hoof left to be cut off at his *Toe*. When that is cut off, and his Feet smooth'd with a File, you will find him to stand so firm, and his Feet will be so strong, that he will tread as boldly on *Stones* as on *Carpet-ground*.

By that time he is shod, I presume 'twill be time to water him, therefore rake him to the *River*, and let him, after he has drank, stand some time in the *Water*, which will close up the *holes* (according to the opinion of some Horsemen) which the driving of the Nails made. Then have him gently home, and having ty'd him up to the Rack, rub him all over *Body* and *Legs* with dry Straw; then stop his Feet with *Cow-dung*, sift him a Quarter of a Peck of clean old *Oats*, and give them to him; then litter him, and leave him a sufficient Quantity of old *Hay*, to serve him all *Night*, and so leave him till the next *Morning*.

CHAP. IV.

How to order the Hunter for the first Fortnight.

I presume by this your Horse will have evacuated all his *Grass*, and his *Shoes* will be so well settled to his Feet, that he may be fit to be *rid abroad* to Air without danger of surbating. Therefore 'tis now necessary that I begin in a more particular manner to direct our *unexperienc'd Groom* how he ought to proceed to order his Horse according to Art.

First then you are to visit your Horse *early* in the *Morning*, to wit, by Five a Clock if in Summer, or Six, if in Winter, and having put up his *Litter* under his Stall, and made clean your *Stable*, you shall then feel his *Ribs*, his *Chaule* and his *Flank*, for those are the cheif signes by which you must learn to judge of the good, or evil state of your Horses body, as I shall now shew you.

Lay your Hands on the lower part of his *short-ribs*, near the *Flank*, and if you feel his *Fat* to be exceeding soft and tender, and to yield as it were under your hand, than you may be confident it is *unsound*, and that the least violent Labour, or Travail will dissolve it: which being dissolv'd, e're it be hardened by good Dyet, if it be not then remov'd by *scouring*, the Fat or *grease* belonging to the outward parts of the Body will fall down into his *Heels*, and

so cause *goutiness* and *swelling*. I need not trouble you with the *outward* signs of this Distemper, they are evident to the Eye: but tho every Groom can inform you when a Horse is said to have the *grease* fallen into his *Heels*, yet may be he cannot instruct you in the cause why *Travail* disperseth it for a time, and when the Horse is *cold* it *returns* with more violence than before. The reason therefore is this: The *Grease* which by indiscreet Exercise, and negligence in keeping is *melted* and fallen into his Legs, *standing still* in the Stable *cools* and *congeals*, and so *unites* it self with other ill Humours, which flow to the affected part, so that they stop the natural *Circulation* of the Blood, and cause *inflammations*, and *swellings* as aforesaid: but *Travail* producing *warmth* in his Limbs *thaws* as it were the *congeal'd* Humours, and disperses them throughout the Body in general; till *Rest* gives them opportunity to unite and *settle* again. Now tho most Grooms are of opinion that this Distemper is not to be *prevented* by care or caution, that when it has once seiz'd a horse it remains incurable; yet they are mistaken in both, for by Art it may be prevented, and by Art cured: altho the cure is so difficult to be wrought, that a Groom cannot be too careful to prevent it.

As for the *inward Grease* which is in his *Stomack*, *Bag*, and *Guts*, if when once melted it be not removed by Art, Medicine and good Keeping, it *putrifies*, and breeds those mortal Diseases, which inevitably destroy the Horse, tho it be half a year, or three quarters of a year after. And this is generally the source of most *Feavers*, *Surfeits*, *Consumptions*, &c. and such other Distempers which carry off infinite numbers of horses, for want of the *Farriers* knowledge in the first Causes of the Distemper: which to prevent you shall follow the ensuing Directions.

After by feeling on his *Ribs* you have found his Fat soft and unsound, you shall feele his *Chaule*, and if you find any fleshy substance, or great round *Kirnelles* or *Knots*, you may be assured, that, as his outward Fat is unsound, so inwardly he is full of glut, and pursue, by means of gross and tough Humours cleaving to the hollow places of the *Lungs* stopping so his *Windpipe* that his Wind cannot find free passage, nor his Body be capable of much Labour. Therefore the chief end and Intention of Art is by good sound Food to enfeame and harden his Fat, and by moderate Exercise, warm cloathing, and gentle Phisick to cleanse away his inward Glut, that his Wind, and other parts being freed from all grossness, his courage and activity in any labour or service may appear to be more than redoubled.

The same Observations you must make from his *Flank*, which you will find alwaies to correspond, with the *Ribs* and *Chaule*, for till he is drawn clean it will feel thick to your gripe, but when he is enfeamed, you will perceive nothing but two thin skins; and by these three Observations of the *Ribs*, *Flank*, and *Chaps*, you may, at any time pass an indifferent Judgment of your Horses being in a good condition or a bad.

When you have made these Remarks, you shall sift your Horse a handful or two (and no more) of good old sound Oates, and give them to him, to preserve his Stomack from cold Humours that might oppress it by drinking fasting, and likewise to make him drink the better. When he hath eaten them, pull off his Coller, and rub his Head, Face, Ears, and Nape of the Neck with a clean Rubbing Cloth made of Hemp, for 'tis soveraign for the Head, and dissolveth all gross and filthy Humours. Then take

take a small *Snaffle*, and wash it in fair water, and put it on his head, drawing the Reins through the *Headstall*, to prevent his slipping it over his head, and so tye him up to the Rack, and dress him thus;

First in your *Right-hand* take a *Curry-Comb* suitable to your *Horsskin*, (as if your horses coat be *short* and *smooth*, then must the *Curry-Comb* be *blunt*, but if *long* and *rough*, then must the *Teeth* be *long* and *sharp*, standing with your *Face* *opposite* to the *Horses*, hold the *Left* cheek of the *Headstall* in your *Left-hand*, and *Curry* him with a good *hard* hand from the *Root* of his *Ears*, all a long his *Neck* to his *Shoulders*: then go over all his *Body* with a more *moderate* hand, then *Curry* his *Buttocks* down to the hinder *Cambrell* with an *hard* hand again: then *change* your hand, and laying your *Right Arm* over his *Back*, joyn your right side to his left, and so *Curry* him *gently* from the top of his *Withers*, to the lower part of his *shoulder*, ever now and then fetching your stroke over the left side of his *breast*, and so *Curry* him down to *Knee*, but no further: Then *Curry* him all under his *Belly*, near his *Fore-bowels*, and in a word all over very well, his *Legs* under the *Knees* and *Cambrels* only excepted. And as you dress'd the *left side*, so must you the *right* likewise.

Now by the way take notice, whether your *Horse* keeps a *riggling up and down*, biting the *Rack-staves*, and now and then offering to *snap* at you, or lifting up his *Leg* to *strike* at you, when you are *Currying* him: if he do 'tis an apparent sign of his displeasure by reason of the *sharpness* of the *Comb*, and therefore you must file the *Teeth* thereof more *blunt*: but if you perceive that he plays these, or such like Tricks through *Wantonness* and the

the Pleasure he takes in the Friction, then you shall ever now and then correct him with your Whip gently for his Waggingness.

This Currying is only to raise the *Dust*, and therefore after you have thus curried him, you must take either a *Horse-tail* (nail'd to an *Handle*) or a clean *dusting-Cloth* of *Cotten*, and with it strike off the loose *Dust* rais'd by your *Curry-comb*. Then dress him all over with the *French-Brush*, both *Head*, *Body*, and *Legs* to the very *Fet-locks*, observing always to cleanse the *Brush* from the filth it gathers from the bottom of the *Hair*, by rubbing it on the *curry-comb*. Then dust him the second time. Then with your *Hand* wet in water rub his *body* all over, and as near as you can leave no loose hairs behind you; and with your wet hands pick and cleanse his *Eys*, *Ears*, *Nostrils*, *Sheath*, *Cods*, and *Tuel*, and so rub him till he be as dry as at first. Then take an *Hair-patch*, and rub his *Body* all over, but especially his *Fore-bowels* under his *Belly*, his *Flank*, and between his hinder *Thighs*. Lastly, wipe him over with a fine white linnen *Rubber*.

When you have thus dress'd him, take a large *Saddle-cloth* (made on purpose,) that may reach down to the *Spurring-place*, and lap it about his *Body*; then clap on his *Saddle*, and throw a cloth over him for fear of catching cold. Then take two *Ropes* of *Straw* twisted extream hard together and with them rub and chafe his *Legs* from the *Knees* and *Cambres* downwards to the *Ground*, picking his *Fetlock-joints* with your hands from *Dust*, *Filth*, and *Scabs*. Then take another *Hair-patch* kept on purpose for his *Legs*, (for you must have two) and with it rub and dress his *Legs* also.

Now by the way let me give you this necessary
Cau.

Caution, be sure whilst you are *dressing* your Horse let him not stand *naked*, his Body being expos'd to the penetration of the *Air*, whilst you are telling a *Banbury-story* to some Comrades, that accidentally come into the Stable, as I have seen some Grooms, that would stand *lolling* over their Horses, when they were *uncloath'd*; and trifle away their time by listening to some idle Discourse; but when you have *stripp'd* him fall to your Business *roundly*, without any intermission till you have saddled him, and thrown his Cloth over him.

And the reason why I advise you to throw a Cloth over him, whilst you are dressing his Legs is this; that although tis a general Rule amongst Grooms, that an Horse cannot take cold whilst he is *dressing*, yet is that Saying to be understood only of his *Body*, not of his *Legs*; for the rubbing of his Legs will not prevent catching cold in his Body.

When this is done, you shall with an *Iron Picker* pick his Feet clean, (that the stopping of his Feet may not be a means of his taking up Stones in them,) *comb* down his *Main* and *Tail* with a wet Main-comb, then spirt some *Beer* into his Mouth, and so *draw* him out of the Stable.

Being mounted, rake or walk him to some Running River, or fresh clear Spring, distant a Mile or two from your Stable, (which will refine his *Mouth* which he may have *lost*, during his Summers Running, and will likewise settle his Body upon his *Rake*,) and there let him drink about *half* his draught at first; to prevent raw Crudities arising in his Stomach. After he hath *drunk* bring him *calmly* out of the Water, and so ride him *gently* for a while; for nothing is more *unbecoming* a Horseman, than to thrust his Horse into a *swift Gallip*, as soon as he comes out of the Water, for these three Causes. First, it is not only

The Hunting-horse.

only hazards the breaking of his Wind, but also assuredly endures the incording, or bursting of him. Secondly, it begets in him an ill habit of running away, as soon as he hath done drinking. Lastly, the foresight he hath of such violent Exercise, makes him oftentimes refuse to quench his Thirst: and therefore (as I said) first walk him a little way, and then put him into a gentle Gallop for 5 or 6 score, then give him wind: and after he hath been rak'd a pretty space, then shew him the Water again, and let him drink what he pleases, and then gallop him again; and thus do till he will drink no more, but be sure to observe always that you gallop him not so much as either to chase, or sweat him.

Now by the way observe, that in his galloping after water, (after the first weeks enseaming,) if sometimes you give him a watering Course sharply, of twelve or twenty score, (as you find your Horse,) it will quicken his Spirits, and cause him to gallop more pleasantly, and teach him to manage his Limbs more manly, and to stretch forth his Body largely.

When your Horse hath done drinking, then rake him to the Top of the next Hill, (if there be any near your Watring-place, for there in the morning the Air is purest, or else to some such place, as he may gain best advantage both of Sun and Air, and there air him a foot-pace an hour, or so long as you (in your discretion) shall think sufficient for the state of his Body, and then ride him home.

During the time of your Horses Airing, you will easily perceive several marks of your Horses satisfaction, and the pleasure which he takes in this Exercise. For he will gape, yawn, and as it were shrug his Body. If he offer to stand still, to dung, or stale, which his Airing will provoke, be sure give him leave, as likewise to stare about, neigh, or listen after any noise.

Now

Now *Airing* brings several *Advantages* to the Horse. *First*, it purifies the Blood, (if the Air be clean and pure,) it purges the Body from many gross and suffocating *Humors*, and so hardens and enfeebles the Horses *Fat*, that it is not near so liable to be dissolved by ordinary Exercise. *Secondly*, it teaches him how to let his Wind rake equally and keep time with the other *Actions* or *Motions* of his Body. *Thirdly*, it sharpens the *Appetite*, and provokes the *Stomach*, (which is of great advantage both to *Hunters* and *Gallopers*, who are apt to loose their *Stomach* through excess or want of Exercise) : for the sharpness of the Air will drive the Horses natural Heat from the exterior to the interior parts, which Heat by furthering Concoction creates an Appetite. *Lastly*, it increases Lust and Courage in him, provided he not too early air'd.

But whereas Mr. Markam, in his *Way to get wealth*, 4^o. pag. 44. directs, if your Horse be very fat to air him before Sun-rise, and after Sun-set; and that the Author of the *Gentleman's Jockey*, 8^o. pag. 14. says, that nothing is more wholesome than early and late Airings; I think the contrary may be made out from Experience. For in this Art, all things that any ways hinder the strength and vigor of Nature, are to be avoided; now, that extremity of Cold, and being out early and late do so, is evidently seen by Horses that run abroad all Winter, which however hardily bred, and kept with the best care and Fodder, yet cannot by any means be advanced to so good case in Winter as an indifferent Pasture will raise them to in Summer. And this holding true of the Nocturnal Colds, must needs be verified in some proportionate measure of the Morning and Evening Dews, and that piercing Cold which is observ'd to be more intense at the opening and close of the Day, than any part

part of the Night. Besides that, the *Dews* and moist *Rimes* do as much Injury to a Horse, as the sharpest *Colds* or *Frosts*: since (as I have found by experience) a Horse any ways inclinable to *Catarrhs*, *Rheums*, or any other cold Distempers, is apt to have the Humors augmented, and the disease most sensibly increased by these early and late Airings.

But if he be not had forth to *aire* till the *Sun* be risen, (as you must call to have him dress'd, and ready to lead forth against that time) his spirits will be chear'd and comforted by that *universal* Comforter of all living Creatures; and indeed all Horses naturally desire to enjoy the Sun's warmth, as you may observe by those Horses which *lie out* all Night, who as soon as the *Sun* is risen, will repair to those places where they may have the most benefit of his *Beams*, and by them be in part *reliev'd* from the coldness of the foregoing Night. And besides the benefit of the *Sun*, the *Air* will be so mild and temperate, as it will rather *indigorate* than *prey* upon his spirits, and more *increase* his Strength than *impart* it.

Neither, tho we disallow of Early and Late airings, need we be at a loss to bring down our Horses *fat*, and from being *pursive*, and *too high* in *Flesh*, to reduce him to cleanness, and a more moderate State of Body: For if you do but observe this *one* Rule of keeping a *fat* Horse so much longer out at a time both Morning and Evening, you will undoubtedly obtain your *end* by such *long Airings*, joyn'd with true sound *Heats*, which you may expect indeed, but will never find from those that are shorter, how early and late soever: for this Method joyn'd with good *feeding* is the best *Prescription* can be given in this case, and tis from the *length* of your *Airings* only, that you must hope to bring your Horse to a perfect *Wind*, and true *Connage*. And therefore a Horse that is *rich* in *Flesh*, is a fitter subject to work on, than

One that is low, because he is better able to endure Labour, whereas the other must of necessity be so favoured in training, to improve his Strength and Flesh, that he is in danger (without he be under the care of a very Skilful keeper) of proving thick wind-ed for want of true Exercise in Training.

When you are returned from Airing, and are dis-mounted, lead your Horse on the Straw, which (as I told you before) should always lye before the Stable door; and there by Whistling and stirring up the Litter under his Belly will provoke him to Stale, which a little practice will bring him to, and is advantagious for the Horses Health, and the keeping of your Stable clean; Then lead him into his Staul (which ought likewise to be well littered) and having ty'd up his head to the empty Rack, take off his Saddle, rubb his Body and Leggs all over with the French-brush, then with the Hair-patch, and last of all with the Woollen cloath.

Then you shall cloath him with a Linnen cloath next to his Body, and over that a Canvas cloath, and both made so fit as to cover his breast and to come pretty low down to his Legs, which is the Turkish way of Cloathing, who are the most curious People (saies the Duke of Newcastle) in keeping their Horses, and esteem them the most of any Nation. Over the forementioned put a Body-cloath of six, or eight Straps, which is better than a Sirsingla and Pad stult with wisps, because this keeps his Belly in Shape, and is not so subject to hurt him.

Now these Cloathes will be sufficient for him at his first Stabling, because being inur'd to the cool Air he will not be so apt to take cold, the weather likewise at that season being indifferently warm, but when sharp weather approaches, and that you find his Hair rise about his outward parts that are

uncloathed, as Neck, Gaskins, &c. then add another Cloath, which ought to be of *Woolen*, and for any Horse bred under this Climate, and kept only for ordinary Hunting, this is cloathing sufficient.

Now the design of cloathings is only by their help joyn'd to the warmth of the Stable, and the Litter (which must alwaies lye under the Horse) to keep his Body in such a moderate Natural Heat, as shall be sufficient to assist Nature, that skilful Physitian in expelling her Enemies, by dissolving those raw and gross Humours which are subject to annoy the Horse, and which would very much prejudice him if they were not removed; which warm cloathing does in a great measure by dispersing them into the outward parts, and expelling them by sweating as he sleeps and lyes down, which will be a meanes to purge his Body, and keep it clean from glut, and redundant Humours.

But yet (as in all things the golden mean is best) there is a mean to be observ'd too here: for as too few Cloathes will not assist Nature sufficiently in the expulsion of her Enemies, so too many will force her too much, and cause weakness in your Horse by too violent sweatings. Therefore you must have a care of following the Example of some ignorant Grooms, who because they have acquired a false Reputation by living in some Noblemans or Gentlemans Service, that are noted Sportsmen, think they are able to give Laws to all their Fraternity, and therefore without any reason heap Multiplicity of Cloaths on the Horse as if they meant to bury him in Woolen. You must know, that both the temperature of the Weather and the State of his Body are to be observed; and that all Horses are not to be cloathed alike. Your fine-Skined Horses, as the Barb, Turk, Spanish horse &c. require more clothes then our English common Hor-

Horses, that are bred in a colder climate, and have naturally thicker skin's, and a longer Coat. But that you may not erre I have told you already how you are to cloath your Horse, and therefore shall only add this one General Rule, That a Rough Coat shews want of Cloaths, and a Smooth Coat Cloathing sufficient: ever observing, that by his Countenance, his Dung, and other outward Characters (which I shall by and by give you more at large) you perceive your Horse to be in health, and yet notwithstanding your Horses Coat still stales, you must add more cloathes till it lye; as on the other hand if it will lye withe the assist- of a single Linnen Cloath it is sufficient.

But if when he has been in keeping some time, you perceive him apt to sweat in the Night, 'tis a sign that he is over-fed, and wants exercise: but if he sweat at his first coming from Grass, you must know that there is cause rather to encrease, than diminish the Cloathes I have allotted at his first Housing; for it proceeds from the foul humours which oppress Nature, and when by exercise they are evacuated, Nature will cease working, and he will continue in a temperate state of Body all the year after.

When he is cloath'd up, pick his Feet cleane with an Iron Picker, and wash his Hoofs clean with a Spung dipt in fair water, and then dry them with Straw or a Linnen cloath, and if there be occasion and that you find your Horses Legs dirty, you may baste them likewise, only you must be sure to rub them dry before you go out of your Stable, then leave him on his Snaffle for an hour, or more, which will assist his Appetite.

When an Hour is expired. you shall come to him again, and having tuck'd an handful of Hay, and
dusted

dusted it, you shall let your Horse *rease* it out of your hand till he hath eaten it; then pull off his *Bridle*, and having rub'd his *Head* and *Neck* clean, with the *Hempen-cloth*, as before, pull his *Eares*, and stop his *Nostrils* to make him *snore*, which will help to bring away the moist *Humours* which oppress his *Brain*, and then put on his *Coller*, and give him a Quarter of *Oats* clean drest, in a *Sive*, having first made his *Locker*, or *Manger* clean with a *Wiske* of *Straw*, and a *Cloth*.

•Whilst he is eating his *Corn*, you shall sweep out your *Stable*, and see that all things are neat about him, and turning up his *Cloaths*, you shall rub his *Fillets*, *Buttocks*, and *Gascoins* over with the *hair-pateh*, and after that with a *Woolen-cloth*; then spread a clean *Flannel Fillet-cloth* over his *Fillets* and *Buttocks* (which will make his *Coat* lye smooth) and turn down his *Housing-cloaths* upon it. Then anoint his *Hoofs* round from the *Crown* to the *Toe* with this Ointment, viz.

Take Four Ounces of *Venice Turpentine*, Three Ounces of *Bees wax*, Two Ounces of the best *Rosin*, One pound of *Dogs-grease*, Half a Pint of *Train Oyle*, Melt all these Ingredients (except the *Turpentine*) together, being melted remove them from the *Fire*, and then put in the *Turpentine*, and keep it stirring, till all be well incorporated, then put it in a *Gally pot*, and when it is cold cover it close from dust, and reserve it for use.

After this pick his *Feet* with an *Iron Picker*, and stop them with *Cow-dung*; and by this time your Horse (if he be not a very slow Feeder) will have eaten his *Oates*, which if you find he does with a good *Stomack*, sift him another *Quart*, and throw them

to feed him by little and little, whilst he eats with an Appetite; but if he fumbles with his Corn, then give him no more at that time.

And this I think a better Direction than to prescribe a set quantity of Provender, as all Authors I have yet met with have done. For without doubt no certain Quantity of Meat can be allotted for all sorts of Horses, any more than for all sorts of Men; and therefore proportion the quantity to the Horses Appetite: but be sure at all times give him his full feeding, for that will keep his Body in better state and temper, and increase his strength and vigor. Whereas on the contrary, to keep your Horse always sharp-set, is the ready way to procure a Surfeit, if at any time he can come at his fill of Provender; according to the common Proverb, *Two hungry Meales make the third a Glutton*. But tho you perceive he gather Flesh too fast upon such home-feeding; yet be sure not to stint him for it, but only increase his Labour, and that will assist both his Strength and Wind.

When these things are done, you shall dust a pretty quantity of Hay, and throw it down to him on his Litter, after you have taken it up under him; and then shutting up the Windows and Stable door, leave him till One a Clock in the Afternoon; at which time you shall come to him, and having rubb'd over his Head, Neck, Fillets, Buttock, and Legs, as before, with the Hair-patch and Woollen-cloth, you shall feed him as before. and then leave him till the time of his Evening watering, (which should be about three of the clock in Winter, and four in Summer;) and then having put back his foul Litter, and swept away that and his Dung, you shall dress and saddle him as before, and mouning him you shall rake him to the water, and

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after

after *drinking* and *galloping* you shall *air* him along by the *River side*, till you think it time to go home; then order him in *all points*, as to rubbing, feeding, stopping his Feet, &c. as you did in the *morning*; and having fed him at *six a clock*, be sure feed him again about *Nine*; and having *lister'd* him well, and thrown him *Hay* enough to serve him for all *Night*, you shall leave him till the next *Morning*. And as you have spent this day, so you must order him in *all respects* for a *fortnight* together, and by that time his *Flesh* will be so *harden'd*, and his *Wind* so *improv'd*; his *Mouth* will be so *quicken'd*, and his *Gallop* brought to so good a *stroke*, that he will be fit to be put to *moderate Hunting*.

Now during this *Fortnights* keeping you are to make several *Observations*, as to the *Nature* and *Disposition* of your Horse, the *temper* of his *Body*, the *course* of his *Digestion*, &c. and order him accordingly. As *first*, if he be of a *churlish* Disposition, you must *reclaim* him by *Severity*; if of a *loving* temper, you must *win* him by *Kindness*. *Secondly*, you must observe whether he be a *foul Feeder*, or of a *nice Stomach*; if he be *quick* at his *Meat*, and retain a *good Stomach*, then *four times* of *full Feeding*, in a *Day* and a *Nights* space, is *sufficient*; but if he be a *slender Feeder*, and *slow* at his *Meat*, then you must give but a *little* at once, and *often*, as about every *two hours*, for *fresh Meat* will draw on his *Appetite*; and you must always leave a *little Meat* in his *Locker* for him to eat at his own *leisure* betwixt the times of his *Feeding*; and when at any time you find any *left*, you shall *sweep it away*, and give him *fresh*, and *expose* that to the *Sun* and *Air*, which will prevent *mustiness* and reduce it to its first *sweetness*, before it was *blown upon*.

Now

Now as to the manner of Feeding, you may sharpen his Stomach by change of Meat, as giving one Meal clean Oats, another Oats and split-Beans, and (when you have brought him to eat Bread) you may give him another meal of Bread, always observing to give him ofteneſt that which he likes beſt; or if you please you may give him both Corn and Bread at the ſame time, provided you give him that laſt which he eats beſt, and which has the beſt Digefſtion.

Tis obſerv'd of ſome Horſes, that they are of ſo hot a Conſtitution, that without they may drink at every bit they cannot eat, and thoſe Horſes uſually carry no Belly; in this caſe therefore you muſt let a Pale of Water ſtand continually before them, or at leaſt offer them Water at Noon, beſides what they fetch abroad at their ordinary times.

Next you are to obſerve the nature of his Digefſtion, that is, whether he retains his Food long, which is the ſign of a bad Digefſtion; or whether Nature does expel the Dung more frequently; which if he do, and that his Dung be looſe and bright, tis a ſign of a good habit of Body; but if he dung hard, and ſeldom, then on the contrary tis a ſign of a dry Body; and therefore to remedy this, you ſhall once in a day give him a handful or two of Oats, well waſh'd in good ſtrong Ale, for this will looſen his Body, and keep it moiſt, and you will find it alſo good for his Wind, notwithſtand- the opinion of ſome to the contrary.



CHAP V.

Of the Second Fortnights Diet, and of his first Hunting, and what Chases are most proper to Train him.

BY that time you have spent this *Fortnight*, according to the foregoing *Rules*, your Horse will be in a pretty good state of Body; for the gross *Humors* will be dry'd in his Body, and his *Flesh* will begin to be harden'd, which you will perceive (as I told you at first) by his *Chaul*, his short *Ribs*, and his *Flank*; for the *Kernels* under his *Chaps* will not feel so gross as at first they did, his *flesh* on his short *Ribs* will not feel so soft and loose, nor the thin part of his *Flank* so thick as at his first housing; so that now you may without bazard adventure to hunt him moderately.

But before I proceed, I think it necessary to clear one point, which I have heard much discuss'd amongst Horsemen, which is, What sort of Chase is most proper for the training of a young Horse? some being of one Opinion, some of another. For some would have a Horse, which is design'd either for a *Buck-hunter* or *Fox-hunter*, us'd from the beginning to the Chase which they are design'd for. Others think those Chases too violent for a young Horse, and therefore chuse to train him after *Harriers*; and of this Opinion I must own my self to be, since Experience has fully shewn me the Advantages of the one, and the Inconveniences

Conveniences of the other. Now to prove this *Affertion*, let us take a slight view of the *several* Chases which are commonly used by our *Nobility* and *Gentry*, where the Horse is made a *Companion* and *Member* of the Sport, and they are these; the *Stag*, *Buck*, *Hind*, *Fox*, *Otter*, and *Hare*.

As for the *three* first here mention'd, as there is not much *difference* in the hunting of them, so the *Inconveniences* from each Chase are in a manner the *same* also. For which soever you *hunt*, tis either in *Covert*, or *at force*. Now if *Deer* be hunted in a *Park*, they usually chuse the most *woody* parts of it, as a *Refuge* from the pursuits of their *Enemies*, which is both *unpleasant* to the *Rider*, and *troublesome* to the *Horse*, to follow the *Dogs* thro the *thick* *Bushes*; and besides, usually the *Ground* in *Parks* is full of *Mole banks*, *Trenches*, &c. which is *dangerous* for a young *Horse* to gallop on, till he has attain'd to some *perfection* in his *Stroke*. But if they be *turn'd* out of the *Park*, and be hunted *at force*, you will find, that as soon as you have *unharbour'd* or *rous'd* them, they will immediately make out *end ways* before the *Hounds* *five* or *six*, nay sometimes *ten* *Miles*, they following in *full Cry* so swiftly, that a *Horse* must be *compell'd* to run *up* and *down* *hill* without any *intermission*; *leaping* *Hedg*, *Ditch*, and *Dale*, nay often *crossing* *Rivers*, to the great *danger* of the *Rider*, as well as of the *Horse*. So that in my opinion tis altogether *improper* to put a young *Horse* to such *violent* labour at the first, till by *practice* and *degrees* he hath been made acquainted with *hard service*.

Now besides the *swiftness* and *violence* of this Chase, and the danger of *cracking* his *Wind*, and *bursting* his *Belly*; besides the *straining* of his *Limbs* by such desperate *Riding*, and the creating in a young *Horse* a *loathsomness* to his *Labour*, by undergoing such

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such violent and unusual service; the seasons for these Chases begining about *Midsummer*, and ending about *Holy-Rood-tide*, which is that part of the year in which the Sun's heat is excessive, and so scorches the Earth, that a violent Chase would hazard the melting his Grease, and the weight of the Rider, by reason of the hardness of the Ground, would occasion *Foundring*, *Splents*, and *Windgalls*, insomuch that in short time the Horse would prove altogether useless.

But here I cannot but desire to be rightly understood, since tho I object against these Chases as improper for young Horses, yet I do not mean that Horses should be excluded this Recreation; but I would have those which are imploy'd herein, to be Horses of stay'd years, and by long practice and experience have been rightly train'd to Hunting. "Young Horses (as the Duke of New-castle says) being as subject to Diseases as young Children, and therefore he advises any man that would buy a Horse for use in his ordinary occasions, as for Journeys, Hawking or Hunting, never to buy a Horse untill the Mark be out of his Mouth, and if he be sound of Wind, Limb, and Sight, he will last you Eight or Nine years with good keeping, and never fail you; and therefore (pursues he) I am always ready to buy for such purposes an old Nag, of some Huntsman, or Falconer, that is sound, and that is the useful Nag, for he gallops on all Grounds, leaps over Hedges and Ditches; and this will not fail you in your Journey, nor any where, and is the only Nag of use for Pleasure or Journey. Thus far the Duke. And if it may be permitted to add to his Advice, I would have them strait-bodied clean-timbred Nags, such as may be light, nimble, and of middle stature, for those Horses are not near so subject to Lameness as those of bulk and strength,

strength, the causes whereof have been already declar'd.

The next *Chase* propos'd was that of the *Fox*, which although it be a Recreation much in use, and highly *applauded* by the generality of the *Nobility* and *Gentry*; yet with submission to their judgment I never could find that *pleasure* in it which has been represented to me by some of its *Admirers*: and I am sure it is *inconvenient* for the *training* of a young Horse, since it is *swift* without respite, and of *long* continuance, both which, as I have already shew'd, are distastful to him; but the greatest *Inconvenience* that happens to a Horse in this Chase is this; that when a *Fox* is *unkennel'd*, he seldom or never betakes himself to a *champion* Countrey, but remains in the strongest *Coverts*, and in the thickest *Woods*; so that a Horse can but *seldom* enjoy the pleasure of *accompanying* the *Hounds*, without hazarding being *stubb'd* or other as *dangerous* Accidents. The fittest Horses for this Chase are Horses of great *strength* and *ability*, since this Chase begins at *Christmas*, which is the *worst* time of *Riding*, and ends at our *Lady-day*, when the Ground is *best* for it.

The next Chase to be spoken of is the *Otters*, which although it may seem *delightful* to some, yet I cannot by any means think it *convenient* for a Horse: for he that will truly pursue this *Amphibious* sport, must often swim his Horse to the equal hazard both of the *Rider* and the *Horse*.

But to conclude with the *last*, and the *best* of Chases, and that is the *Hare*. It is in my opinion the most *pleasant* and *delightful* Chase of any whatsoever, and the most *beneficial* for training a young Horse. It

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is *swift*, and of some *indurance*, like that of the *Fox*, but far more *pleasant* to the Horse, because *Hares* commonly run the *Champion Country*; and the *scent* not being so *hot* as the *Foxes*, the *Dogs* are *oftner* at *default*, and by that means the Horse has many *Sobbs*, whereby he recovers *Wind*, and regains new *Strength*. This Chase begins at *Michaelmas*, and lasts till the *End of February*.

Now the *best Dogs*, to bring your Horse to *perfection* of *Wind* and *Speed*, are your *fleet Northern Hounds*; for they, by means of their *hard-running*, will draw him up to that extraordinary *speed*, that he will not have time to *loiter*, and by continual practice will be so *inur'd* and *habituated* to the violence of their *Speed*, that in a short time he will be able to ride on *all sorts of Ground*, and be at such *command* upon the *hand*, that he will *strike* at what *rate* you please, and *three-quarters speed* will be less troublesome to him than a *Canterbury-gallop*.

I have often thought this one of the *Reasons* why your *Northern Breeders* for the generality *excel* those of the *South*; since certainly the *speed* of their *Hounds* contributes much to the *Excellence* of their *Horses*, and makes them endure a four mile Course without *Sobbs*, which some Horsemen call *Whole-Running*: but of this more in another place.

The time being now come that he may be *hunted*, you shall order him on his days of *Rest* in *all points*, as to his *Dressing*, hours of *Feeding*, *Watriug*, &c. as in the *first Fortnight* afore directed; only since his *Labour* is now to be increas'd, you must endeavour to increase his *Strength* and *Courage* likewise; and this will be effected by adding to his *Oats* a third part
of

of clean old *Beans* spelted on a Mill, and as an over-plus to allow him *Bread* made after this manner.

Take four Pecks of clean old *Beans*, and two Pecks of *Wheat*, and grind them together, and sift the meal thro a Meal-sieve of an indifferent finenēis, and knead it with warm water and good store of *Barm*, and let it lie an hour or more to swell, for by that means the Bread will be the lighter, and have the easier and quicker *Digestion*; after which being with a *Brake* or any other way exceedingly well-kneaded, make it up into great Household Peck-loaves, which will be a means to avoid *Crust*, and prevent its drying too soon; bake them thoroughly, and let them stand a good while in the *Oven* to soke, then draw them, and turning the bottoms upwards let them stand to cool.

When your Bread is a day old you may venture to feed your Horse with it, having first chipt away the *Crust*; and sometimes giving him *Bread*, sometimes *Oats*, and now and then *Oats* and spelted *Beans*, according as you find his stomach; you need not fear but such Feeding will bring him into as good condition as you need desire for Ordinary Hunting.

When your Bread is prepar'd, and you first Fortnight expir'd, you must then pitch upon a Day for his first going abroad after the *Dogs*, and the Day before you hunt you must always order him after this manner. In the morning proceed in your usual method as before, only observe that day to give him no *Beans*, because they are hard of digestion, but give most of *Bread* if you can draw him on to eat it, because it is more nourishing than *Oats*; and after your Evening Watering, which ought to be somewhat earlier than at other times, give him onely a little *Hay* out of your hand, and no more

more till the next day that he returns from *Hunting*: and to prevent his eating his *Litter*, or any thing else but what you give him, you shall instead of a *Muzzle* put on a *Cavezone* joyn'd to a *headstall* of a *Bridle*, being lin'd with *double Leather* for fear of hurting him, and tying it so *straight* as to hinder his *Eating*; and this will prevent *Sickness* in your Horse, which is incident to some Horses when their *Muzzle* is set on, notwithstanding the invention of the *Lattice-window*, now adays so much in use; but this way your Horses *Nostrils* are fully at *liberty*, and he will never prove *sick*. But as to his *Corn*, give him his *meals*, both after his *Watering*, and at nine a clock, at which time be sure to *litter* him very well, that he may the better take his *Rest*, and leave him for that *Nights*.

The next morning come to him very early, as about four a clock, and having dress'd a Quarter of a Peck of *Oats* very clean, put them into his *Locker*, and pour into it a *Quart* of good strong *Ale*, and after having mix'd the *Oats* and *Ale* very well give him them to eat; whilst you put back his *Dung* and foul *Litter*, and make clean his *Stable*, but if he will not eat wash'd *Oats* then give him dry; but be sure put no *Beans* to them. When he has done eating, *Bridle* him, and tie him up to the *Ring*, and dress him. When he is dress'd saddle him; then throw his *Cloth* over him, and let him stand till the *Hounds* are ready to go forth. But be sure not to draw your *Saddle Girths* straight till you are ready to mount, lest by that means he become *sick*. But generally old Horses are so *crafty*, that when an ignorant *Groom* goes to girt them up hard, they will stretch out their *Bodies* to such a bigness by holding their *Wind*, (on purpose to gain ease after they are girt) that twill appear difficult to girt them; but afterwards they let go their *Wind*, and their *Bodies* fall again. When

When the *Hounds* are *unkennell'd*, (which should not be till *Sun-rising*) go into the *Field* along with them, and *rake* your Horse up and down gently till a *Hare* be *started*; always observing to let him *smell* to other Horses *Dung*, (if he be desirous of it) which will provoke him to *empty* himself, and let him *stand still* when he does so: and if you meet with any *dead Fog*, *Rushes*, or such like, ride him upon them, and by *whistling* provoke him to *empty* his *Bladder*.

When the *Hare* is *started*, you are not to follow the *Hounds* as the other Hunters do, but to consider, that this being the *first time* of your Horses *hunting*, he is not so well vers'd in the different sorts of *Grounds* as to know how to *gallop* smoothly, and with *ease* on them; and therefore you are not to put him as yet to above *half his speed*, that he may learn to carry a *staid body*, and to mannage his *Legs* both upon *Fallows*, and *Greenswarth*. Neither are you to *gallop* him often, nor any long time together, for fear of *discouraging* him, and breeding in him a *dislike* to this Exercise; but observing to cross the *Fields* still to your best *advantage*, you shall *make in* to the *Hounds* at every *default*, and still keep your Horse (as much as these Rules will allow you) within the *Cry* of the *Dogs*, that he may be us'd to their *Cry*; and you will find, that in a very short time he will take such *delight* and *pleasure* in their *Musick*, that he will be desirous to *follow* them more eagerly.

Now if at any time the *Chase* be lead over any *Carpet ground*, or *sandy High-way*, on which your Horse may lay out his body smoothly, you may there *gallop* him for a *quarter* or *half a mile*, to teach him to lay out his *Body*, and to gather up his *Legs*, to enlarge and shorten his *Stroke*, according to the different *Earths* he gallops

gallops on, as if on *Green-swarth, Meadow, Mooves, Fleath, &c.* then to *loop*, and run more on the *Shoulders*; if amongst *Mole-hills*, or over high *ridges* and *furrows*, then to gallop more *roundly*, and in *less compass*, or according to the vulgar phrase *two up and two down*, that thereby he may *strike* his *Furrow clear*, and avoid setting his *Fore-feet* in the *Bottom* of it, and by that means *fall over*; But by this way of galloping, tho he should happen to set his *Feet* in a *furrow*, yet carrying his body so *round* and *resting on the Hand* in his gallop, would prevent his *Falling*; and to this *perfection* nothing but *use*, and such moderate *Exercise* can bring him.

According to these Rules you may spend your Time in Hunting, till about *Three a Clock* in the Afternoon, at which time you shall have him *home* in a *foot pace* as you came out in the Morning, and be sure that he be *cool* before you bring him out of the *Field*; and as you are going home consider with your self, whether or no he hath *sweat a little*, (for you must not sweat him *much* the first time;) but if not, then gallop him *gently* on some *Skelping Earth*, till he sweat at the *Roots* of his *Ears*, a little on his *Neck*, and in his *Flanck*, but it must be done of his own *voluntary motion*, without the compulsion of *Whip* and *Spur*: and then when he is *cool* as afore said, have him *home* and *Stable* him, and be sure avoid *walking* him *in hand* to cool him, for fear he cool *too fast*, or *washing* him, for fear of causing an *obstruction* of the natural course of the *Humours*, (which are thought by some Horse-men to abound most in *Winter*) and by that means cause an *inflammation* in his *Legs*, which is the Parent of the *Scratches*.

When you set him up in his *Stall* (which must be well *litter'd* against his coming home) rye up his
Head

Head to the Ring with the Bridle, and then rub him well with dry Straw all over both *Head*, *Neck*, *Fore-bowels*, *Belly*, *Flank*, *Buttocks* and *Legs*; and afterwards rub his *Body* over with a dry cloth till there be not a wet hair left about him, then take off his *Saddle* and rub the place where the *Saddle* stood dry likewise, and so cloath him with his ordinary Cloaths with all speed, for fear least he take cold; and if you think him too hot throw a spare cloath over him, to prevent his cooling too fast, which you may abate when you please, and so let him stand on his *Snaffle* Two Hours or more, stirring him with your *Whip* now and then in his *Staul*, to keep his *Legs* and *Joints* from growing stiff.

When that time is expired, and you think it may be throughout cold, then come to him, and having drawn his *Bridle* rubbed his *Head*, and pick'd his *Feet* from Durt and Gravel which he may have gather'd abroad, put on his *Collar*, and sift him a Quart, or three Pints of *Oates*, and mix with them a handful of clean dusted *Hempseed*, and give them to him; but give him not above the quantity prescribed, for fear of taking away his *Stomack*, which will be very much weakened through the heat of his body, and want of water. Then remove the spare-cloth (if you have not done it before,) for fear of keeping him hot too long, and when he has eaten his *Corn*, throw a pretty quantity of *Hay* clean dusted, on his *Litter*, and let him rest two or three Hours, or thereabouts.

Whilest you are absent from him, you shall prepare him a good *Mash*, made of half a Peck of *Mault* well ground, and water that is boiling hot, observing to put no more water than your *Mault* will sweeten, and your *Horse* will drink, and then stir them together with a *Rudder*, or stick and then cover it over with cloths, till the water has extracted the strength
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of the *Malt*, which will be evident to your *taste* and *touch*, for twill be almost as *sweet* as *Honey*, and feel *ropy* like *Birdlime*; then when it is *cold*, that you can scarce perceive it to *smoak*, offer it to your Horse, but not *before*, lest the *steam* ascend into his *Nostrils*, and thereby offend him with its *scent*; and when he has drunk the *water*, let him if he please eat the *Malt* also. But if he refuse to *drink*, yet you must give him no other *water* that night, but by placing it in one Corner at the *head* of his *Stall*, in such manner that he may not throw it down, (which you may effect by nailing a *Spar* across before the *Bucket*) let it stand by him all *Night*, that he may drink at his pleasure.

Now you will find this *Mash*, or (as some call it) *Horse-Candle*, very *beneficial* to your Horse on several Accounts; for it will comfort his *Stomach*, and keep his *Body* in a due temperate *heat* after his days *Hunting*; it will *cleanse* and *bring away* all manner of *Grease* and gross *humours*, which have been *dissolved* by this Days labour, and the *fume* of the *Malt-grains*, after he has drunk the *water*, will *disperse* watry *Humours*, which might otherwise annoy his *head*, and is allow'd by all Horsemen to be very *advantageous* on that account.

When he has eaten his *Mash*, then *strip* him of his *Clothes*, and run him over with your *Curry-comb*, *French Brush*, *Hair Patch*, and *Wollen Cloath*, and clothe him up again, and then *cleanse* his *Legs* as well as his *Body* of all *Dirt* and *Filth* which may annoy them, as you have been directed in *Dressing*; then remove him into another *Stall* (that you may not wet his *Litter*) and *bathe* his *Legs* all over from the *Knees* with warm *Beef-broth*, or, which is better, with a quart of warm *Urine*, in which four Ounces
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of Salt-Peter hath been dissolv'd; then rub his *Legs* dry as when you came in from *Water*, set him into his *Stall*, and give him a good *Home-feeding* of *Oats*, or *Bread*, (which he likes best) or *both*, and having shook good store of *Litter* under him, that he may rest the better, and thrown him *Hay* enough for all night on it, shut up your *Stable* close, and leave him to his *Rest* till morning.

The next morning come to him betwixt six and seven a'clock, for that is time enough, because the *Mornings rest* is as pleasant and refreshing to the *Horse* as it is to a *Man*, for then the *meat* being concocted the *sleep* is more sweet, and the *brain* is at that time more thin and pure. If he be laid disturb him not, but stay till he rises of his own accord, (and to know this you ought to have a private *peep-hole*) but if he be risen, then go to him, and the first thing you must do is to put back his *Dung* from his *Litter*, and to observe what *Colour* it is of: observe whether it be *greasie*, and *shining outwardly*, and *break* it with your *Feet*, that you may see whether it be so *inwardly*; for if it be *greasie* and *foul* either within or without, (which you may know by its *outward shining*, and by *spots* like *Soap*, which will appear *within*) or if it appear of a *dark brown* colour, and *harder* than it was, it is a sign that your former days *hunting* was *beneficial* to him, by *dissolving* part of the inward *glue* which was within him; and therefore the next time you hunt you must *increase* his *labour* but a little. But if you perceive no such *Symptoms*, but that his *Dung* appears *bright*, and rather *soft* than *hard*, without *grease*, and in a word that it holds the same *pale yellow* colour it did before you hunted him, then tis a sign that days *Hunting* made no *dissolution*, but that his *Body* remains in the same *state* still, and therefore the next days *Hunting* you may almost *double* his *Labour*.

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When you have made these *Remarks* from his *Dung*, you shall then proceed to order him as in his days of *Rest*; that is to say, you shall give him a handful or two of *Oats* before *Water*; then *dress*, *water*, *air*, *feed*, &c. as in the first *Fortnight*.

Now as to his *Feeding* you must remember the way I have already *shew'd*, of *changing* his *Food*; as giving him one while *Bread*, another *Oats*, a third time *Oats* and *Beans*, which you find he likes best; observing always, that *variety* will *sharpen* his *Appetite*. But *Bread* being his *chief Food*, as being more *nourishing* and *strong* than the others, you must feed him *often'st* with it.

And as in the first *Fortnight* I directed you to observe his *Digestion*, whether it were *quick* or *slow*, so likewise must you do now that he begins to *eat Bread*. If you find him *quick*, and that he retains his *Bread* but a *little while*, then (as I have already directed) you shall only *slightly chip* your *Bread*; but if he be *slow*, and retains it *long*, *cut away* all the *Crust*, and give it to some other *Horse*, and feed your *Hunter* only with the *Crum*; for that being *light* of *Digestion* soon converts to *Chyle* and *Excrements*, but the *Crust* being *slow* of *Digestion* requires by reason of its *hardness* longer time before it be *concocted*.

The next day after he has *rested*, you shall *hunt* him again as you did the first day, observing from the *Remarks* you have made, to hunt him *more* or *less*, according as you find the *temper* and *constitution* of your *Horse*; and when you are *return'd home*, observe to put in *Practice* the same *Rules* which you have just now read; and thus hunt your *Horse* *three times* a *week* for a *fortnight* together, observing to give him his *full feeding*, and no other *Scowrings* but *Mashes*, and *Hempseed*, which is *equal* in its *Vertue* to the *former*,

her, and only carries off *superfluous Humours* in the
Dung.

And here before I conclude this Chapter, I cannot but take notice of the *Abuse* of *Scowrings*, and my own *Ignorance*, being led away by the *perswasions* and my mistaken *opinion* of other mens *Skill*, who because they could talk of giving a *Scowring*, (tho Experience has since taught me, that they never knew the *Operation* of them, nay nor the *Disposuion* of the *Horses* which they kept) I thought most eminent and skilful *Horse-Doctors*. But indeed I found to my *Cost*, that my *Ignorance* led me into the same *mistake* with those men, that take *Physick* by way of *Prevention*, and by that means render their *Bodies* more *lyable* to *Diseases*, their *Pores* being so much *opened* by *Physick*. In like manner I found that tho I bought *Horses* of *sound* and *strong* *Constitutions*, yet by following the *false Rules* and *Practices* of *Others* I quickly brought them to weak *habits* of *Body*; and by continually using them to unnecessary *Physick*, to be *tender*, and apt to take *Cold* and *Surseits* on every small occasion: which taught me to know, that as *Kitchen Physick* is best for a *Man*, (unless he languish under some more than ordinary *Distemper*) so *natural* and *true sound Feeding* is best for a *Horse*, it strengthening his *Constitution*, and keeping his *Body* in good *temper*; for a *Horse* that is *full-fed* with good *natural Diet* is not subject to *costiveness*; and from hence I infer, that a *Horse* which is *sound*, and in *health*, and of a *strong Constitution*, needs little *Physick* more than good *wholsom meat*, and his *fill* of it, provided you order him as he ought to be when he is come from *Hunting*.

But as *Horses* no more than *Men* are free from *Di-*
 E *stempers,*

stempers; but by reason of *abuses* and *unkind Masters* are rather more *liable* to them, (it being become a Proverb, *As many Diseases as a Horse*); so when at any time they *happen* recourse must be had to *Physick*; and as it is *good* in its true *use*, so I shall in the *subsequent* part of my Discourse set down *when*, and *what manner* of *Scurvings* are *useful*, and how they are to be *applied* with *skill*, and *safety*; of which in its proper place.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Horses Third Fortnights Keeping, and first thorough-Sweating.

BY this time your Horse will be drawn so clean, his *Flesh* will be so *inseam'd*, and his *Wind* so *improv'd*, that he will be able to *ride* a *Chase* of three or four Miles without much *blowing*, or *sweating*; and you will find by his *Chaul* and *Flank*, as well as his *Ribs*, that he is in an *indifferent good state* of body, and therefore this *next Fortnight* you must *increase* his *labour*, by which means you will come to a true *knowledge* of what he is *able* to do; and whether or no he will ever be fit for *Plates*, or a *March*.

When your Horse is *set* over night, and *fed* early in the morning, (as in the *last Fortnights Preparation* for Hunting was directed) then go into the *Field* with him, and when your Horse is *empty*, as he will be by that time you have *starved* your *Game*, you shall *follow* the *Dogs* at a good round *rate*, as at *half-speed*,

speed, and so continue till you have kill'd or lost your first *Hare*. This will so rack your Horses wind, and by this time he will have so emptied himself, that he will be fit to be rid the next Chase briskly; which as soon as begun you shall follow the Dogs at three quarters speed, as near to them as is consistent with the discretion of a good Horseman, and a true Huntsman; but be sure as yet not to strain him.

During this daies Riding you shall observe your Horse's sweat, under his Saddle, and Forebowels, if it appear White like Froth, or Soap-suds, 'tis a sign of inward glut and foulness, and that your daies sport was fully sufficient, and therefore you shall have him home, and order him as before you are directed. But if your Sport has been so indifferent, as not to sweat your Horse thoroughly, then you shall make a Train-scent of Four Miles long, or thereabout, and laying on your Fleetest Dogs, ride it briskly, and then having first cool'd him in the Field, ride him home and use him as aforesaid.

Now that I may not leave you in ignorance what a Train-scent is, I shall acquaint you that it has its Name, as I suppose, from the manner of it, viz. the trailing or dragging of a dead Cat, or Fox, (and in case of Necessity a Red-Herring) three or four Miles, (according to the Will of the Rider, or the Directions given him) and then laying the Dogs on the scent.

But this Caveat let me give all Huntsmen, to keep about two or three Couple of the fleetest Hounds you can possibly procure for this purpose only. For although I have seen skillful Sportsmen use their Harriers in this Case, for their diversion

yet I would perswade them not to use them to it often; for it will teach them to *lie off the Line*, and *swing* so wide, that they will never be worth any thing.

When you *unbridle* your Horse, give him instead of *Hempseed* and *Oates*, a handsome quantity of *Rye bread*, (to which end I would advise you to bake a Peck Loaf for this purpose) which being cold and moist will assist in *cooling* his body after his Labour, and prevent *Costiveness*, to which you will find him addicted, then give him Hay, and afterwards a *Mash*, and then order him in all points as formerly.

The next morning if you perceive by his *Dung* that his Body is *distempred*, and he is *hard* and *bound*, then take some *Crumms* of your *Rye-bread* and work it with as much sweet fresh *Butter* as will make it into *Palte*, and then making it into Balls about the bigness of a large *Walnut*, give him 5 or 6 of them in the morning *fasting*; and then setting on your Saddle upon his Cloth, *mount* him, and gallop him *gently* in some adjoining *grass-Plas*, or *Close* till he begin to *sweat* under his *Eares*, then lead him into the *Stable*, and let him be well rub'd, and throwing a spare Cloth over him, and good store of fresh Litter under him, let him *stand* two hours on the *Bridle*, then give him a quantity of *Rye-bread*, then throw him some *Hay* to chew upon, and after that get him another warm *Mash*, and then feed him with *Bread* and *Corn* as much as he will, and be sure to allow him what Hay he will eat. The next day water him *abroad*, and order him as in his daies of *rest*.

The day following Hunt him again, but by no means

meanes so *severely* as you did the time before till the *Afternoon*, but then ride him after the Dogs *briskly*, and if that does not make him *sweat thoroughly* make another *Train-scent*, and follow the Dogs three quarters speed, that he may sweat *heartily*. When you have a little cooled him, have him *home*, and upon his first entrance into the *Stable* give him two or three *Balls* as big as *Wallnuts*, of this most excellent *Scowring*; viz.

Take *Butter* four Ounces, *Lenitive Electuary* two Ounces, *Gromell Broom* and *Parsly seeds*, of each one Ounce, *Aniseeds*, *Liquorish* and *Cream of Tartar*, of each half an Ounce, *Fallap* an Ounce: make the *Seeds* into *Powder*, and stir them into a *Paste*, with the *Electuary* and the *Butter*; knead it well, and keep it close in a *Pot* for use.

As soon as you have given your Horse these *Balls* rub him *dry*, then dress him and *cloath* him up warm and let him stand two or three hours on the *Snaffle*, then give him two or three handfulls of *Rye-bread*, and order him as you did before as to *Hay Provinder*, *Mash &c.* and so leave him till the *Morning*.

Then come to him and first observe his *Dung* whether it keep the true Colour, or whether it appear *dark*, or *black*, or *red* and *high* coloured; next whether it be *loose* and *thin*, or *hard* and *dry*. If it be of the right colour I mean *Pale yellow* tis a sign of *health*, *strength* and *cleanness*; if it be *dark*, or *black*, then tis a sign there is *Grease* and other ill *humours* stirred up which are not yet evacuated: if it be *red* and *high* coloured, then tis a token that his *Blood* is *Feaverish* and distempered through inward heat: if it be *loose* and *thin*, tis a sign of *Weakness*, but if *hard* and *dry*, it shews the horse to be *hot inwardly*, or else that he is a *foul feeder*: But if his *dung* carry a
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medium betwixt hard and soft, and smell strong, is a sign of Health and Vigour.

When these Observations have been taken notice of concerning his *Dung*; then you shall feed, dress, water, &c. as in his former days of Rest; observing always to give variety, and his belly full of Corn and Bran. The next have him abroad in the Field again, but by no means put him to any Labour, further than to take him from hill to hill after the Dogs, to keep him within sound of their Cry; for the design of this Day's Exercise is only to keep him in breath, and get him an Appetite. Observe as you ride, that you let him stand still to dung; and look back on it that you may draw Inferences from the Faces. When the Day is well nigh spent bring him home without the least sweat, and order him as at other times, only observe to give no Scourings, nor Rye-bread. You may if you please water your Horse this day, both at your going into the Field and at your coming Home, observing to gallop after it, to warm the water in his Belly. The next is a day of Rest.

In the same manner in every respect as you have spent this Week you must spend the next likewise, without alteration in any point; and by that time assure your self that your Horse will be drawn clean enough for any ordinary Hunting; so that afterward observing to hunt your Horse moderately twice or thrice a week, according to your own pleasure, and the constitution of your Horses body, you need not question but to have him in as good state and strength as you would desire, without danger of his Wind, Eye-sight, Feet, or Body.

Now when you have thus according to art drawn your Horse clean, you will perceive those signs which

I told you of, verified; for his *Flesh* on his *short Ribs* and *Buttocks* will be as *hard* as a *Board*, his *Flank* will be *thin*, and nothing to be felt but a *double skin*, and *chaps* so clean from *Fat*, *Glut* or *Kernels*, that you may *hide* your *Risks* in them; and above all his *Exercise* will give plain *Demonstration* of the *Truth* of this *Art*, for he will run *three* or *four Miles* three quarters speed without *sweating*, or scarce *blowing*, I say when this is *perfected*, you must avoid all *scurvings* after hunting, (because Nature has nothing to work on) but *Rye-bread* and a *Mash*, except your Horse be now and then troubled with some little *Pozz* in the *Head*; and then you shall bruise a little *Mustard seed* in a fine linnen *Rag*, and steep it in a quart of strong *Ale* for three or four hours, and then untying the *Rag* mix the *Mustard-seed* and the *Ale* with a quarter of a *Peck* of *Oats*, and give it your Horse.

Lastly, when your Horse is *drawn clean*, you must beware that he *grows* not *soul* again thro want of either *Airing*, or *Hunting*, or any other *Negligence*, lest by that *means* you procure to your self and your Horse double *pains* and *labour*, and no thanks from your *Master*.

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CHAP. VII.

Of making a Hunting-Match, its advantages and disadvantages.

Since many Persons of Honour delight in good Horses, both for Hunters as well as Gallopers, it may not be improper to speak a word in this place concerning the *Advantages* or *Disadvantages*, which happen in making of *Hunting-Matches*; since he that proceeds cautiously and upon true grounds in *matching* his Horse is already in a great measure sure of gaining the Prize, at least if the Proverb be true, that a *Match well made is half won*.

The first thing to be consider'd by him that designs to *match* his Horse, for his own *advantage* and his Horses *credit*, is this; That he do not *flatter* himself in the opinion of his Horse, by *fancying* that he is swifter than the *wind*, when he is but a *slow Galloper*; and that he is *whole-running*, (that is, will run *four miles* without a *sobb* at the *height* of his *speed*) when he is not able to run a *mile*.

And the ground of this Error I suppose arises from a Gentleman's being mistaken in the *speed* of his *Hounds*, who for want of *Tryal* against other *Dogs* that have been really *fleet*, has suppos'd his own to be *swift*, when in reality they were but of *middle speed*; and because his Horse (when trained) was able to follow them *all day*, and at any hour to *command* them upon *deep* as well as *light* Earths, has therefore
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falsly concluded him to be *swift* as the *best*; but upon tryal against a Horse that has been *rightly* train'd after Hounds that were *truly* fleet, has to his cost bought his *Experience*, and been convinc'd of his *Error*.

Therefore I would perswade all *Lovers* of *Hunters* to get two or three Couple of try'd Hounds, and once or twice a week to follow after them a *Train-scent*; and when he is able to top them on all sorts of *Earth*, and to endure *Heats* and *Colds* stoutly, then he may the better re'ie on his *Speed* and *Toughness*.

That Horse which is able to ride a *Hare-chase* of five or six miles briskly, and with good courage, till his *body* be as it were bath'd in *sweat*; and then upon the death of the *Hare*, in a hiping frosty morning can endure to stand still, till the *sweat* be frozen on his *back*, so that the *cold* may pierce him as well as the *heat*; and then even in that extremity of *Cold* to ride another *Chase*, as *briskly* and with as much *courage*, as he did in the former: That Horse which can thus endure *heats* and *colds* oftenest is of most *value* amongst *Sports-men*. And indeed tis not every Horse that is able to endure such extraordinary *Toyl*; and I my self have seen very *brave* Horses to the *Eye*, that have rid the first *Chase* to admiration, that when the *Cold* had struck to them, and they began to grow *stiff*, have flagg'd the *second*, and given *quite out* the *third* *Heat*.

Therefore to make a judgment of the goodness of your own Horse, observe him after the death of the first *Hare*, if the *Chase* has been any thing *brisk*; if when he is *cold*, he *shrinks* up his *Body*, and draws his *Legs* up together, tis an infallible token of want of *Courage*; and the same you may collect from the *slackning* of his *Girths* after the first *Chase*, and from
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The Hunting-horse.

the setting of his Teeth, and the dulness of his Countenance; all which are true marks of Faintness, and Tiring: and therefore there is no reliance on such a Horse, in case of a Wager.

But if on the contrary, you are Master of a Horse (not only in your own judgment, but in the opinion of knowing Horsemen) that is approv'd for Speed, and Toughness, and you are desirous to march him, or otherwise to run for a Plate; I will to the best of my power tell you the advantages that are to be gain'd in *Marching*.

But before I enter upon the subject propos'd, I think it convenient to tell you the way our Ancestors had of making their *Matches*, and our modern way of deciding *Wagers*. First then the old way of Trial was by running so many *Train-scenes* after Hounds, as was agreed on between the parties concern'd and a Bell-Court, this being found not so uncertain and more durable than *Hare-hunting*; and the advantage consisted in having the *Trains* led on Earth most suitable to the nature of the Horses. Now others chose to hunt the *Hare* till such an hour prefix'd, and then to run the *Wild-geese-Chase*, which, because it is not known to all *Huntsmen*, I shall explain the use and manner of it.

The *Wildgeese Chase* received its Name from the manner of the flight which is made by *Wildgeese*, which is generally one after another: so the two Horses after the running of Twelvescore Yards, had liberty, which Horse soever could get the leading, to ride what ground he pleas'd; the hindmost Horse being bound to follow him, within a certain distance, agreed on by Articles, or else to be whipt up by the *Friers* or *Judges* which rode by, and which ever Horse could distance the other won the *Match*.

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But this Chase was found by Experience so inhumane, and so destructive to good Horses, especially when two good Horses were match'd; for neither being able to distance the other, till ready both to sink under their Riders through Weakness, oftentimes the Match was fain to be drawn, and left undecided, tho both the Horses were quite spoil'd.

This brought them to run *Transcours*, which afterwards was chang'd to three Heats, and a straight Course; and that the Lovers of Hunting-horses might be encourag'd to keep good Ones, Plates have been erected in many places of this Land, purposely for Hunters, and some their Articles exclude all others, (namely Gallipers) from Running.

But whether you design to match your Horse against any One Horse in particular, or to put him in for a Plate, where he must run against all that come in general; yet tis necessary that you know the nature and disposition of your Horse, before you venture any wager on his head; that is to say, whether he be hot and fiery, or cool and temperate in Riding; whether he be very swift, but not hard at bottom, or slow, but yet sure, and one that will stick at mark; on what sort of Earths he most delights to gallop on, whether to climb or run down hills, or else to skelp on a Flat; whether to run on deep, or light Grounds; whether on rack-ways, or Carpet-ground; whether amongst Mole-hills, or on Meadow ground; whether he be well-winded, or thick wind-ed, so that tho he will answer a Spur, and mend upon Lapping, yet he must have ease by Sobs. All these things must be known, to the end that you may draw those advantages from them which may be offer'd in matching; as this for Example.

If your Horse be *hot* and *fiery*, tis odds but he is *fleet* withall (for generally those Horses are so) and delights to run upon *light* and *hard* flats; and must be held *hard* by the Rider that he may have time to recover *Wind* by *Sobbs*; or else his *Fury* will choak him. But whereas it is the general opinion that nothing that is *violent* can be *lasting*; and therefore that it is impossible that such hot mettled Horses can be *tough* and *hard* at bottom, this I conceive may be but a popular Error; for I have sometimes seen by Art those two Qualities reconciled, at least so far, as to make the most *Fiery Horse* manageable, and to endure both *Whip* and *Spur*; and then tho he should not prove at bottom so *truly tough* as the *craving Drudge*, yet by his Riders management his *Speed* shall answer it in all points and serve in its *stead*; But to return to my Subject.

The best way to *Match* such a Horse is to agree to run *Train-scents* and the fewer the *better* for you, before you come to the *Course*: Also in these *Train-scents* the *shorter* you make your *distance* the *better*: and above all things be sure agree to have the leading of the first *Trayn*, and then making choice of such grounds as your Horse may best shew his *Speed*, and the *Fleeteft Doggs* you can procure, give your *Hounds* as much *Law* before you, as your *Triers* will allow, and then making a loose try to win the *Match* with a *Wind*; but if you faile in this attempt then *Beare* your Horse, and save him for the *Course* at last.

But if your Horse be *slow*, yet *well Winded*, and a *true Spurr'd Nagg*; then the more *Train-scents* you run before you come to run the *straight Course* the better. Observing here too, to gain the leading of the first *Train*, which in this case you must lead it upon such *deep Earths* that it may not end near any *light Ground*. For this is the *Rule* received among

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Horsemen that the next *Train* is to *begin* where the *last ends*, and the last train is to be ended at the *starting Post* of the *Course*. Therefore observe to end your *last* on deep Earths as well as the *first*.

In the next place have a care of making a *Match* of a *suddain*, and in *Drink*, for fear least you *repent* when you are *Sober*. Neither make a match against a Horse, which you do not *know*, without first consulting some skilfull or trusty *Friend*, on whose *Judgment* and *Honesty* you can safely rely, and who is able to give a good *Account* of your *Adversaries* Horse's *Speed* and his manner of *Riding*; and if you find him any ways correspondent to your own in *speed* or *goodness* be not too *Peremptory* to venture, but upon some reasonable probabilities of *Winning*: for tis neither *Brags* nor *Fancy* that will make your Horse run one jot the *better*, or your Adversarys the *worse*: and remember this, that there is no Horse so *good*, but there may be another as *good*; and then if you proceed on good *Grounds*, and true *Judgment*, you may be the bolder to go on, and stand to your *Match*, notwithstanding the opinion of other men may be against you.

One material *Advise* I had like to have forgot and that is this; be sure at no time give *advantage* of *Weight*, for you will find the *inconvenience* of it at the latter *end* of the *Day*: for tho a Horse *feel* it not when he is *fresh*, yet it will *sink* him very much when he grows *weak*: a *Horse-length* lost by odds of *Weight* in the first *Train*, may prove a *distance* in the streight *Course* at last; for the *Weight* is the same every *Heat* tho his *strength* be not.

But if on the other side you gain any advantage of *Weight*, article that the *Horseman* shall ride so much *weight* as you are agreed on, *besides* the *Saddle*, for by this means the *Rider* (if he be not weight of him

him self) must carry the *dead weight* somewhere about him, which will be troublesome to the *Rider* as well as the *Horse*; and the more to the *latter*, since tis more remote from his *Back*, then if it were in the *Saddle*, and by consequence will more disorder his *stroke* if the *Rider* incline to either side then if it were nearer the *Center*; as you may see by a pair of *Scales*, where if the *Pin* be not placed exactly in the midst of the *Beam*, the *longest* part (as being most distant from the *Center*) will be the *heaviest*.

Now as to the time that you take for *dyeting*, that must be according to the *Nature* of your *Horse*, and the present *state* of *Body* he is in; for tho he may be clean enough for ordinary *Hunting*, yet he may be far distant from that perfect *State* of *Body*, that is required in a *Match*, and to keep him in such strict *Dyet* all the *Season*, (except on such extraordinary Occasions) would be an *unnecessary* Expence.

As to your *Horses* *Disposition* for *Running*, you must know it by use and *Observation*, for in this Point *Horses* very much differ, for some run best when they are *high in case*, others when they are in *middle Condition* of *Flesh*, and some again when they appear to the *Eye Poor*, and *Low* in *Flesh*; therefore according to your *Horses* *Nature*, and the time required to bring him into his *best State*, you must order your day for the tryal of your *Match* to be.

But if you design to put him in for some *Hunting Plate*; there neither the *choice* of your *Ground*, the *Weight*, nor the *Horses* you are to run against are at your *disposal*, but you must take them as you find them; only the time for bringing your *Horse* into a good *Condition* is at your own *discretion*, since you may begin as soon or as late as you please to keep him in strict *Dyet*, the time for all *Plates* being usually *fixt*, and annually the same.

CHAP. IX.

Of the Ordering the Hunter, for a Match
or a Plate.

When you have either *Matcht* your Horse, or entertained thoughts of putting him in for a *Plate*, you must consider that you ought to reserve a Month at the least, to draw his Body perfectly *clean*, and to refine his *Wind* to that degree of *perfection* which Art is capable of *attaining* to.

First then you must take an exact view of the *State* of his Body; both *outwardly* and *inwardly* as whether he be *low* or *high* in *Flesh*, or whether he be *dull* and *Heavy* when abroad, and this occasioned through too much *hard riding*, or through some *Grease* that by hunting has been *dissolved*, but for want of a scowring has not been removed.

If he appear *suggish* and *Melancholy* from either of these causes, than give him half an Ounce of *Dia-pente* in a pint of good old *Malligo Sack*, which will both *cleanse* his *Body*, and *revive* his *Spirits*: and then for the first week you shall *feed* him continually with *Bread*, *Oats* and *split Beans*, giving him sometimes the *one* and sometimes the *other*, according as he likes, always leaving some in his *Locker* to eat at his own leisure when you are absent; and when you return at your Hours of *Feeding* to take away what is left, and to give him *fresh* till you have made him *wanton* and *playfull*. To which end you shall observe that though you ride him every day *morning* and

and evening on *Airing*, and every other day on *Hunting*, yet you are not to sweat him, or put him to any violent *Labour*, the design this week being to keep him in *Wind* and *Breath*, and to prevent *pursiveness*.

But you are to observe that both your *Oats*, *Beans* and *Bread* are to be now ordered after another manner then you did before, for first you must dry your *Oats* well in the *Sun*, then put them into a clean *Bag* and beat them soundly with a *Flail* or *Cudgel*, till you think they are *hulled*; then take them out of the bagg and *winnow* them clean both from hulls and dust and so give them to your *Horse* as you have occasion. Your *Beans* in like manner must be separated from the hulls which are apt to breed *Glut*, and must either be thrown away or given amongst chaf to some more ordinary *Horse*. And for your *Bread* whereas before you only *chipt* it, now you must cut the *Crust* clean away, and dispose of it as you please; for tis *hard of digestion*, and will be apt to *heat* and *dry* his *Body*. And now that you are to put him into *stricter keeping*, you are to make a *finer* sort of *Bread* then before, as thus;

Take two Pecks of *Beans*, and two of *Wheat*, and grind them together, but not too *fine*, to prevent too much *Bran* being in the *Bread*; and dress one Peck of the *Meal* through a fine *Range*, and knead it up with new *Ale-Barm*, and the *Whites* of a dozen new layd *Eggs*, and so *bake* it in a *Loaf* by it self, and the rest dress through a *Boulter*, and knead it only with *Ale* and *Barm*; and use it in all other points as the former: Now the *Peck-loaf* is to be given your *Horse* when you *set* him, and the other at *ordinary* times.

This *Bread* assists *Nature* much in increasing the *Strength*, *Courage* and *Wind* of your *Horse*, provided

ded you add thereto (as I have always told you) *true Labour*, as any Bread whatsoever; nay even as either of *M. De-Greys* sorts of Bread, which he mentions in his *Compleat Horseman* 4^o p. 232. ed. 4^o especially his last, which he says is *better Bread, and a greater Cooler*; and which he prescribes to make thus,

‘Take *Wheat Meal* one Peck, *Rye-meal*, *Beans* and *Oat-meal*, all ground very small, of each half a Peck, *Aniseeds*, and *Licorish*, of each one Ounce, *White Sugar-Candy* four Ounces all in fine Powder, the yolks and whites of Twenty Eggs well beaten, and so much *White-wine* as will knead it into a Paste, make this into great Loaves, bake them well, and after they be two or three days old, let him eat of this Bread, but chip away the *Out side*.

Now the Reason why I have cited this is, because I have heard several (who would be thought knowing Horsemen) applaud this very Bread beyond any other to be met with in any Book, tho for my part I can find nothing excellent in the whole Composition.

For first *Oat-meal* tho it be strong, yet it is a dry grain, hard of digestion, and a great dryer up of the Blood. The *Wheat* is of a drying quality likewise, tho it be light; for the *Aniseed* and *Licorish*, they are not only *Physical* but hot also; so that the Body becomes over heated, and thereby costive. And yet these People will not be persuaded, but these Drugs will make him long-winded; possibly they might assist him in *Neighing*, as some men say it doth *Songsters* in *Vocal Musick*, wherein there is no Exercise of the Body used; but where bodily strength is required, I am apt to believe it more prejudicial than profitable.

But here some will object that there is *Rye* and *Beanes* both which are moistning; especially the *Rye* whch is both cold and moist, and is the very reason *DeGrey* himself gives why he put *Rye* into his latter

Bread, because (says he) *Rye* is a *Loosner* and a *Cooler*, and therefore it will make the Horse more *soluble*.

I have already said, that if his *Body* have *Feeding* proportionate to his *Labour*, the Horse will continue in a right state of *Health*. Yet since he is *hot* by Nature, and *Labour* might increase his natural *Heat*, and render him *costive*, therefore I have all along prescribed him *Rye-bread* alone as *Physical*. But here let the Horse be in what condition soever, whether *bound* in his body or *laxative*, yet *Rye* being a part of your Bread, your Horse must continually feed thereon, which has this undeniable *disadvantage*, that if he be *loose* in his body, this Bread (to use *de Grey's* own words) will make him more *soluble*.

And now whilst I am discoursing of *Horsebread*, I cannot but condemn another *curiosity* in some *Feeders*, who think, by dressing their *Meal* to the utmost degree of *Fineness* they do wonders, and that such pure Food must of necessity bring him to the greatest perfection imaginable both of Body and Wind.

But in this point I think they are deceiv'd, for the *Meal* being dress'd so very *fine*, nothing remains but the quintessence of it; which tho it be lightened by *Barm* and *Whites of Eggs*, yet when it is above a day old twill begin to *harden*, (as may be observ'd by *Manchet*) and especially if *Oatmeal* be in it, by reason of its drying quality, whereby it will not be so easie of digestion, as it would be otherwise if it had no *Bran* in it; and by consequence will be more apt to oppress his Stomach, if he be heated, before it be thoroughly digested, and so breed raw crudities, and an inflammation of the blood, and by that means hazard a *Surfeit*, than which nothing can be of worse consequence to a Horse that is match'd.

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And therefore tis that I advise, that your *Horse-bread* should only be made of *Wheat* and *Beans*, and that it should not be *dress'd* too *fine*, nor too *course*, but so, as that there may be neither so *much* Bran left as to *annoy* the *blood*, nor so *little* as to make your Bread too *close* and *solid*; but you may leave some on purpose to *scowr* the *Maw*, and further your *Horses Digestion*. And thus much by way of *Digression*.

Having spoken to the *first* condition of *Horses* which we propos'd, viz. *melancholly*, and *low in flesh*, we are now to speak of those which are *brisk* and *lively*; which if your *Horse* be so, that when you lead him out of the *Stable* he will *leap* and *play* about you, then you must not only avoid giving him the *Scowring* last mention'd of *Sack* and *Diapente*, but any other whatsoever: for there being no foul *Humours*, or any *superfluous matter* left in his body for the *Physick* to work on, it will *prey* upon the *strength* of his body, and by that means *weaken* it, which it must be your utmost endeavour to *preserve* by full *Feeding* and *sound Labour*, which will necessarily produce a perfect *Wind*, which is the *Support* of *Strength*, for when his *Wind* once fails, his *Strength* avails nothing.

As to the manner of it, if your *Horse* be ingag'd in a *Hunting-match*, you shall *sweat* him twice this week, but not by *hunting* him after the *Hare*, as formerly, but by *Train-scents*, since the *former* on this *Occasion* may prove *deceitful*; for tho the *Hounds* be very *swift*, yet the *Scent* being *cold* the *Dogs* will often be at *fault*, and by that means the *Horse* will have many *Sobs*, so that when he comes to run *Train-scents* in earnest your *Horse* will look for *ease*, his *Wind* being not so perfect as in *Art* it ought to be.

Therefore lead your *Train-scents* with a *dead Cat*

over such *Grounds* as you are likely to *run on* and *best* agrees with your *Horses Humour*, and be sure make choice of the *Fleetest* hounds you can get, and then your *Horse* will be kept up to the *hight* of his *speed*.

As to the Number of *Train-scents* that you are to *ride* at a time, that you must order according to your *March*, or (which is better) according to your *Horse's* *strength*, and *ability* for performing his *Heats*. For if you *labour* him beyond his *strength*, twill take him off his *speed*, weaken his *Limbs*, and daunt his *Spirit*. If you give him *too little* Exercise, it will give opportunity for *pursuements* and ill *humours*, as *Glut*, &c. to increase in him, and gain in him a *habit* of *Laziness*, that when he comes to be put to labour above his *usual* rate, he will grow *restiff*, and settle like a *Fade*, either of which will redound to your *discredit*, and therefore it must be from your own *knowledge* in the *state* of his *Body*, and not from any *general* *Directions* in writing, that you must steer your *Course*.

Only this *Direction* may be given you, that if you are to run *Eight* *Train-scents* and the *straight* *Course*, more or less, you are to put him to such *severe* labour not above *twice* in your whole *Months* keeping; and and if it be in the first *Fortnight*, twill be the better, for then he will have a *complete* *Fortnight* to recover his *strength* again; and for his labour in his last *Fortnight*, let it be proportionate to his *strength* and wind, as sometimes *half* his *Task*, and then *three* parts of it. Only observe, that the last *Tryal* you make in the first *Fortnight* be a *Train-scent* more than your *Match*, for by that means you will find what he is able to do. And for the proportion of his Exercise, *twice* a week (as I have already said) is sufficient to keep him in *breath*, and yet will not diminish or injure his *Vigour*.

But if your *Hunting-match* be to run fewer *Train-scents*

scents, then you may put him to his whole Task the oftner, according as you find him in condition; only observe that you are not to strain him for Ten daies at least before he ride his Match, that he may be led into the Field in perfect strength and vigour.

If you intend him for a Plate, let him take his Heats according to this Direction, only let it be on the Place, that he may be acquainted with the Ground; and as for the Hounds you may omit them, as not being ty'd to their Speed, but that of your Adversaries Horse's. But as to your Number of Heats, let them be according to what the Articles exact; only observe that as to the sharpness of them, they must be regulated according to the temper of his strength, and the purity of his Wind. And when you beat him provide some Horses upon the Course to run at him, which will quicken his spirits, and encourage him, when he finds he can command them at his pleasure. And here too the same Rule must be observed, not to give your Horse a Bloody heat for Ten daies or a Fortnight before the Plate be to be run for: And let his last beat which you give him before the day of Tryal be in all his Cloathes, and just skelp it over; which will make him run the next time much more vigorously, when he shall be stript naked, and feel the cold Air pierce him.

But now that I am speaking of sweating, it may be expected that I should lay down some Rules how to order a Horse that is in keeping for a Match in Frosty weather, or in case he be an old strain'd Horse, so that you dare not beat him in hard weather, for fear of Lameing him a fresh.

In these cases some Horsemen have practis'd sweating their Horse in the House, by laying on him multiplicity of Cloathes, being first made hot at the Fire; which is the most unnatural way of sweating a Horse
that

that can be, since 'tis provok'd by heat arising from the *ourward parts*, and is too violent, the extreamity of the *heat* joyn'd to the *weight* of the *Cloathes*, not only *weakning*, but almost *smothering* him.

The next way in use, is to give him his Heat *abroad*, as I just now mention'd in his *Cloathes*, but this too is not so *natural* and *kindly*, as without his *Cloathes*, since here too the *heat* is augmented from *without*, and consequently abates his *strength* the more, and yet doth not altogether so well improve his *Wind*.

Therefore if either you have a Horse that has been *strain'd*, or otherwise the *weather* be *unseasonable*, find out some *dead Fog*, or *sandy way*, though of but *half a Miles* length, and there *breath* your horse till he *sweat* as you would have him. I remember to have heard of a *Gentleman* having *match'd* his horse for a very *considerable* *sum*; and the *weather* proving *hard*, took this *course* to keep his horse in *breath*; he caus'd *Straw*, and *foul Litter* to be *spread* all along round an *adjoyning Close*, and every *morning* his *Servants* *shook* it up and *turn'd* it, to keep it *hollow* and *soft*, and then the Horse was had forth to *gallop* on it after his *Water*, and by this meanes kept his Horse in *tollerable* *Wind*.

Now during this *Month* both on his *Resting-daies*, and after his *sweats* on *Heating-daies*, you are to observe the same *Rules* which you were taught in the *first week* of your *Third Fortnights* *Keeping*; only you are to omit all *scourings*, but *Rye-bread* and *Mashes*; since your Horse being in so *perfect* a state of *Body* has no need of any. Only if you think there may be any occasion, and that your Horse prove *Thirsty*, about *Eight* or *Nine* a *Clock* at *Night* you may give him this *Julip* to *cool* him and *quench* his *Thirst*.

Take *Barly-water* Two *Quarts*: of *Syrup* of *Violets* 3 *Ounces*, of *Syrup* of *Lemmons* 2 *Ounces*, mix them

them together, and give them to your Horse to drink; if he refuse, *fasten* it from falling as you did the *Mash*, and so let it *stand* by him all *Night*.

During the last *Fortnight*, you must not only dry your *Oats*, and *hull* them by *beating*, but likewise take half a Strike of *Oats* and wash them in the *Whites* of a dozen or twenty *Eggs*, and stirring them therein let them *soke* all *Night*; then the next *Morning* take them and *spread* them abroad in the *Sun*, till they be as dry as at first, and so give them to your Horse, and when they are spent prepare more in the same manner. This Food is *light* of *Digestion*, and very *sovereign* for his *Wind*.

This *Beans* must be order'd as before, only give them not so frequently, if he will eat his *Oats* without them; and for his *Bread* this *Fortnight* let it be three parts *Wheat* to one of *Beans*, and let it be order'd as before directed. And likewise if you find him inclin'd to *costiveness* forget not to *relieve* Nature by giving him *Oats* wash'd in two or three *Whites* of *Eggs* and *Ale* beat together; for that, as I have told you already, will *cool* his *Body*, and keep it *moist*.

During the last *Week* omit giving him a *Mash*, only give the *Barly-water* as before; but as to *Hay* let him have as much as he will eat (which will not be much, if he have his fill of better food) till a day before he is to ride his *March*, but then you must hold your hand, that he may have time to *digest* that which he has *eaten*, and then and not before you may *muzzle* him with your *Cavezone*; and be sure that day, and so till the *morning* he is led out, to *feed* him as much as possible, for such a days *Labour* will require something to maintain *strength*. Therefore in the *Morning*, an hour before you are to *lead out*, give him a *Tost* or two of *White-bread* steeped in *Sack*, which will revive his *Spirits*, and so lead him into the *Field*.

But if you are to run for a *Plate*, which usually is not till three a clock in the *After-noon*, then by all means have him out *early* in the morning to *air*, that he may *empty* his Body, and when he is come in from *Air-ing* feed him with *Tests* in *Sack*; for you must consider, that as too much *fulness* will endanger his *wind*, so too long *fasting* will cause *faintness*. When he has eaten what you think fit to give him, put on his *Carvexone*, and then having *chaf'd* his *Legs* soundly with *Piece-grease* and *Brandy* warm'd together, or *Train-oil*, (which ought likewise to be us'd *daily* at *Noon* for a *Week* before the *Match*, or longer if you see cause,) shake up his *Litter*, and shutting up your *Stable* close, and preventing any *Noise* to be made near him, leave him to his *Rest* till the *hour* come that he is to go into the *Field*.

As to *plating* his *Main* and *Tail*, *shooing* him with *Plates*, *pitching* his *Saddle* and *Girths*, and the like preparations, they are things which every *Groom* can instruct you in, and therefore I shall not trouble you with *Rules* concerning them, but in lieu thereof shall add some farther *Directions* how to judge of the *State* of your *Horses Body*, and if you find any thing amiss therein how to redress it.

CHAP.

CHAP IX.

Of the Means to judge of your Horses State of Body, and of curing all Casualties that may happen after Matching.

THere are several *Observations* to be made by you during your *Dieting* your Horse, which if you miscarry in, may be the loss of your *Match*, or your share in the *Plate*. Therefore, that you may know how to proceed regularly in this *Art*, I shall endeavour to *summe* them up.

First then you are to observe his *Chaule*, his *Ribs*, and his *Flank*, according to the Rules formerly laid down; for if he be *clean within*, he will also be *clean there*; but yet he may feel *clean there*, when he is not *clean within*; and therefore those *Grooms* are very *conceited*, who upon their first view of a Horse and handling of his *Flank*, pronounce him to be in a true state of Body; for gentle *Airing*, warm *Cloathing*, scanty *Feeding*, may *disperse* the gross *Fat* and *Glut*, and drive it from the *outward* parts, so that he may *appear* *clean*, when in reality he is *not* so: and therefore you are only a *competent Judge*, who know how he was *cleansed*.

Therefore you are to observe, first, whether in *all points* you have proceeded according to *Art* in his *Training*; as whether he performs his *Heats* with *vigour* and true *courage*, whether he have been all along *home-fed*, whether you have not suffer'd *pursueneſs* to increase by too little labour, or abated his *Flesh* and *Strength*

Strength by too much. These things are the very grounds of Keeping, and therefore ought to be scan'd and consider'd with judgment.

Next you are to observe his manner of Feeding, as whether he holds his Appetite or no; and observe what sort of Food he likes best, and of that give him ofteneſt; and in case his stomach abate, keep him out longer Morning and Night, at his airings.

In like manner you must observe his Dung, which tho it be as fallacious oftentimes as a Sick-man's Water, it being liable to alteration on the change of Dyet, or being influen'd by the air, yet being clean and in health it will usually be a pale yellow colour, and be voided in round Pellets; but if it be loose, and soft, it is an infallible sign of weakness, and therefore must by good Feeding be remedied as soon as possible. But if it be hard and dry, so that he cannot dung but with difficulty and straining, then you must endeavour to relieve Nature, but not with scowrings, which would weaken too much, but rather chuse to give him this Glister, which will both cool and refresh him.

Take a Quart of Whey, of Syrrup of Violets, and Pulpe of Cassia, of each Four Ounces and of Manna half an Ounce; this will Purge him gently, and is most excellent to cool his Bowels.

The next thing to be considered is Lameness, which if it proceed from old strains you must make use of this Oyntment, which I have several times experimented with good success.

Take fresh Butter, Oyle of Bayes, Diatshea, and Turpentine of each Two Ounces, mix and boyle them together on a soft fire, and when they are well incorporated, as hot as the Horse can suffer it, annoint the

the Horse twice a day, and give him *exercise*, by *Air-
ing* him abroad Morning and Evening a *foot pace*, and
you will find it a certain *Remedy* for any *Strain* in
the *Shoulder*, *Clap* on the *back sinews*, or any *grief* what
soever, that proceeds from *Strains*.

But if you only fear *Lamenefs* from *Old Strains*,
then you must be careful that your *Exercise* be mo-
derate, and alwaies when you come in from *Water*
and his *Legs* are *rub'd dry*, annoint them with
such supple *Oynments*, as are accounted good for the
Limbs, as *Linseed*, *Train*, *Sheepsfoot*, *Neatsfoot*, *Nerve-
Oyle* and the like; all which may be used on his
daies of *Rest*, but on his *heating* daies *Urine* and *Salt-
Peter*. Some Horsemen make use of *Brandie* and *Sal-
let Oyl* mix'd, and *bathe* his *Legs*, and afterwards
heat it in with a hot *Iron*, and commend it as the
best thing for the *Limbs* of an *Old stiff* Horse.

But if your Horse through *Negligence*, or any *ca-
sualtie* happen to have the *Grease* fall into his *Heels*,
you must endeavour to remove it by a good *sound
heat*, and a *scouring* after it, and apply to his *Legs*
this *Poultice*.

Take of *Honey* a Pound, of *Turpentine*, common *Gum*,
Meal of *Linseed*, and the *Meal* of *Fenugreek*, of each 4
Ounces, and the *Powder* of *Bay-berries* well search'd
3 *Ounces*, *mix* and *boyle* all these well together; then
take it off, and put to it a *Pint* of *White-wine*, then
boyle it again, till it be very *thick*: and with this, as
hot as the Horse can suffer it, lap his *legs* about *Plai-
ster-wise*, and *renew* it only *once* in *three daies*, and it
will certainly bring his *Legs* within compass.

If your Horses *Feet* be *bad*, either *surbated*, or *foun-
dred*, then instead of *Cow-dung*, you may stop
them with *blew-clay* and *Vinegar* temperd toge-
ther,

ther, and on his Heating-daies at Night stop them with *grey-sope*, and keep it in with a peice of an old Shoo-sole.

If your Horse be troubled with any *Dose* in his head give him *Mustard-seed* amongst his *Provender*, but if it be a *worse Cold*, which you will perceive by his *Ratling*, then give him this *Lambitive*, or *Electuary*.

Take of *Honey* and *Treacle*, each half a Pound, having mixt these together, add to them Powder of *Cumminseed*, *Liquorish*, *Bay-berries*, *Annisecds*, each an Ounce, mix all these together, and put them to the *Honey* and *Treacle*, which will make it of a thick consistence. If your horse hath a *Cold*, instead of his *Oates* before Water, give him the quantity of a *Walnut* of this *Lambitive* on the top of a *stick* or in a *Spoon*, and let him *lick* it off; and the same do after *Airing*, when first you come in, and you will find the *advantage* of it.

These at present are all the *Inconveniencies* that I can call to mind, which are *lyable* to *Hunters*, or *Gallopers* in their *Keeping*; and tho through *inadvertency*, or want of memory I should have omitted any, yet from these *Grounds*, you may form your *Remedies* for any common *Accident* or *Distemper*; and now that we draw near to the *Match-day*, and the *End* of our *Discourse*, we will only discuss some few *Rules* relating to the *Trial* of the *Hunting March*. I mean *Rules* to be observed in *Riding*, and so conclude.

CHAP. X.

Of riding a Hunting-Match, or Heats for a Plate, and the Advantages belonging to each.

I Have endeavour'd to shew the Necessity and the Manner of *Training* and *DiETING* Horses, but this alone is not sufficient to the winning of either *Match* or *Plate* without a *knowing* and an *honest Rider*, and a *skilful Judge* or *Tryer* be joyn'd thereto; but since no man is fitter to *ride* the Horse than he that has the *training* of him, I shall lay down some *general Rules* how to *ride* to the best Advantage either a *Hunting-Match*, or three *Heats* and a *Course* for a *Plate*.

The first Requisite in a *Rider*, next to *faithfulness* in his *Trust*, is to have a good *close Seat*, his *Knees* being held firm to his *Saddle-skirts*, his *Toes* turn'd inward and his *Spurs* outward from the Horses sides, his *left hand* governing his Horses *Mouth*, and his *right* commanding his *Whip*; observing during all the *Trial* throughout to sit firm in his *Saddle*, without *waving*, or *standing up* in his *Stirrups*, which very much *incommodes* the Horse, notwithstanding the conceited Opinion of some *Jockeys* that it is a *becoming Seat*.

When you *spur* your Horse, *strike* him not hard with the *Calves* of your *Legs*, as if you would beat

beat the wind out of his body, but just turn your Toes *outwards*, and bring the Spurs *quick* to his sides; and such a *sharp stroke* will be more serviceable to the *quickning* of your Horse, and sooner draw blood. Be sure not to spur your Horse but when there is occasion, and avoid spurring him under the *fore-bowels*, between his *Shoulders*, and his *Girths* near the *Heart* (which is the tend'rest place) till the last *Extremity*.

When you whip your Horse let it be over the *shoulder* on the *near* side, except upon *hard running*, and when you are at all; then be sure with a *strong jerk* to strike your Horse in the *Flank*, for there the skin is tender'st, and most sensible of the *Last*,

Observe when you whip or spur your Horse, and that you are certain he is at the *top* of his *speed*, if then he clap his *Ears* in his *Pole*, or whisk his *Tail*, be sure that you bear him hard, and give him as much comfort as ever you can, by *sawing* his *Snaffle* to and fro in his *Mouth*, and by that means forcing him to open his *Mouth*, which will comfort him, and give him wind.

If there be any *high wind* stirring when you ride, observe if it be in your *Face* to let your Adversary lead, and to hold hard behind him till you see your opportunity of giving a *Loose*; yet you must observe to ride so close to him, that his Horse may break the *Wind* from yours, and that you by *stooping* low in your *Seat* may shelter your self under him, which will assist the strength of your Horse. But if the *Wind* be in your *Back*, ride exactly behind him, that your Horse may alone enjoy the benefit of the *Wind*, by being as it were blown forward, and by breaking it from him as much as you can possible.

Next

Next observe what *Ground* your Horse *delights* to run best on, *bearing* your Horse (as much as your Adversary will give you leave) on *level Carpet-ground*, because your Horse naturally will be desirous to spend himself more *freely* thereon. But on *deep Earths* &c. give him more *liberty*, because he will naturally *favour* himself thereupon. Be sure, if you are to run *up hill*, to *favour* your Horse and *bear him*, for fear of running him out of wind; but *down hill*, (if your Horses *Feet* and *Shoulders* will endure it, and you dare venture your own *Neck*.) always give him a *Loose*.

Only take this for a *general Rule*, that if you find your Horse to have the *Heels* of the other, that then you be careful to *preserve* his *Speed* till the last *Train-scent*, if you are not to run a *straight Course*, but if so, then till the *Course*, & so to husband it then too, that you may be able to *make a Push* for it at the last *Post*.

Next you are to observe the nature of your *Opposites* Horse, and if he be *fiery*, then to run just *behind*, or just *cheek by jowl*, and with your *Whip* make as much noise as you can, that you may force him on *faster* than his Rider would have him, and by that means *Spend him* the sooner. Or else keep just *before* him upon such a *slow Gallop*, that he may either *over reach* or by treading on your Horses *Heels* (if he will not take the *leading*) endanger falling over.

Observe on what ground the *contrary* Horse runs *worst* and on that *Earth* be sure to give a *loose* that your *Adversaries* being forced to follow you, may hazard *stumbling*, or *clapping* on the back *Simws*.

Observe likewise in your *Riding* the several *Helps* and *Corrections* of the *Hand* the *Whip* and the *Spur*, and when and how often he makes use of them; and when you perceive that his Horse begins to be blown by any of the former *Synptoms*, as *Whisking* his *Tail*,
clap-

clapping down his Ears, holding out his Nose like a Pig &c. you may then take it for granted that he is at the top of what he can do; therefore in this case observe how your *own* rides, and if he run *cheerfully* and *strongly* without *Spurring*, then be sure keep your *Adversary* to the same *speed* without giving him *ease* and by that means you will quickly bring him to *give out*, or else *distance* him.

Observe at the *End* of every *Train-scent* what *Condition* the other Horse is in; and how he *holds out* in his *Labour*; which you may be able to give a *judgment* of by his *Looks*, the *Working* of his *Flank*, and the *slackness* of his *Girths*. For if he look *dull* tis a sign his *Spirits* fail him; if his *Flanks* beat much, tis a token that his *Wind* begins to fail him, and then of necessity his *Strength* must too. If his *Wind* fail him, then his *Body* will grow *thin* and appear *tucke up*, which will make his *Girths* appear *slack* to the Eye. And therefore take this for a *Rule* that there is no greater Sign of *Weakness* then this which I have last mentioned; so that if your *Adversaries* Horse want *girting* after the first *Scent*, provided he were *close-girt* at his first *starting*, you need not much *dispair* of winning your *Wager*.

When each *Train-scent* is ended (and so likewise after every *Heat* for a *Plate*) you must have *dry* Straw, and *dry* Cloaths both *Linmen* and *Woollen* which have been *steep'd* in *Urine* and *Salt-Peter* a day, or two, and then *dryed* in the *Sun*; and likewise one, or two of each which have been *so steeped*, must be brought *wet* into the *Field*; and after the *Train* is ended you must have two or three *Helpers*, and after your *Groom* has with a *Knife of Heat* (as the D. of *New-Castle* calls it) which is an old piece of a *Sword blade*, scrapt off all the *Sweat* from your Horses *Neck*, *Body* &c. you must see that they first with *Straw*, and then

then with their dry Cloaths rub him dry all over, whilst others are employed about his Legs; and as soon as they are rub'd dry then chase them with your wet cloaths, and never give over till you are called by the Judges to Start again. This will keep his Joynts plyant and nimble, and prevent any inflammation which might arise from any old Strain.

The next thing to be considered is the Judges, or Tryers Office, which is to see that all things are ordered according to the Articles, which to that end ought to be publickly read before the Horses Start.

Next that each Tryer on whose side the Train is to be led, according to the Articles give directions for its leading according to the advice of the Rider, or his Knowledge of the Nature and Disposition of that Horse on whose side he is Chase.

Next that each Tryer be so advantageously Advantaged, as to ride up behind the Horses, (but not upon them) all day; and to observe that the Contrary Horse ride his True-ground, and observe the Articles in every particular, or else not to permit him to proceed.

Next that after each Train seem to be ended, each Tryer look to that Horse against whom he is chosen, and observe that he be so managed but with rubbing, except Liberty on both sides be given to the contrary.

Next, as soon as the time which is allow'd for rubbing be expired, which is generally half an hour, they shall command them to mount, and if either Rider refuse, it may be lawful for the other to Start without him, and having beat him the distance agreed on, the Wager is to be adjudg'd on his side.

Next, the Tryers shall keep off all other Horses from crossing the Riders, or leading them; only they themselves may be allow'd to infract the Riders by

word of mouth how to ride, whether slow, or fast, according to the Advantages he perceives may be gain'd by his Directions.

Lastly, if there be any weight agreed on, they shall see that both Horses bring their true weight to the starting place, and carry it to the end of the Train, on penalty of losing the Wager.

The same Rules are to be observ'd (especially this last) by those Gentlemen which are chosen to be Judges at a Race for a Plate; onely they usually stay in the Stand, that they may the better see which Horse wins the Race.

Now for running for a Plate, there are not so many Observations to be made, nor more Directions requir'd than what have been already mention'd; onely that if you know your Horse to be rough at bottom, and that he will stick at mark, to ride him each Heat according to the best of his performance, and as much as possible either riding at any particular Horse, or staying for any, but to ride each Heat throughout with the best speed you can.

But if you have a very fiery Horse to manage, or one that is hard-mouth'd, and difficult to be held, then start behind the rest of the Horses with all the coolness and gentleness imaginable; and when you find your Horse to begin to ride at some command, then get up to the other Horses, and if you find they ride at their Ease, and are hard held, then endeavour to draw them on faster; but if you find their Wind begin to take heat, and that they want a Sob, if your own Horse be in wind, and you have a Loose in your hand, keep them up to their speed, till you come within three quarters of a Mile of the End of the Heat; and then give a Loose, and pass for it, and leave to Fortune and your Horses Goodness the Event of your Success.

Many

Many more Rules there are which may not occur at present to my memory, and others which I purpose to omit; but these may serve the honest Jockey, and for the others which relate to Foul-play, as crossing, hanging on the Posts, leaning on the other Horseman, yaking, &c. I desire not to instruct any one in them, and could wish that they might never be made use of, but be wholly relinquish'd by all honest Horsemen.

Lastly, when either your Hunting-Match, or your Trial for the Plate is ended, as soon as you have rubb'd your Horse dry, you must soon bring up, and lead him home, where the first thing you give him shall be this Drink to comfort him.

Take a Pint and a half of sweet Milk, and put three Yolks of Eggs beaten into it; then make it lukewarm, and put in three penny-worth of Saffron, and three Spoonfuls of Sallet-oil, and give it him in a Horn.

When this is done, dress him slightly over with your Curry Comb, Brush, and Woollen Cloth; and then bath the place where the Saddle stood with warm Sack to prevent Warbles, and wash the Spurring-places with Piss and Salt, and then afterwards annoint them with Turpentine and Powder of Jet mix'd together; and be sure let the Stable be very well litter'd; and then cloath him up with all speed, and so let him stand two hours. Then feed him with Rye-bread, after that with a very good Mash: then give him his Belly full of Hay, and what Corn or Bread he will eat. Then bathe his Legs well with Urine and Sals-peter, leave him Corn in his Locker, and so let him rest till the next Morning; at which time order him as before directed in his days of Rest.

Thus I have imparted to the Publick what my own

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